Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-88-196
Tuesday
11 October 1988

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-88-196 *11 October 1988*

CONTENTS

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

11 October Middle East and South Asia Review 1

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

Progress in Egypt-Libya Talks on Expelled Workers *[KUNA]* 4
Libya Withdraws After Egypt Admitted to Meeting *[MENA]* 4

Palestinian Affairs

Reportage on Meeting of PLO Leaders in Tunis 4
'Independence Document' Approved *[MENA]* 4
Leaders End Meetings *[Radio Monte Carlo]* 4
Khalaf on Creating State *[KUNA]* 5
HAMAS Taking Part in Talks *[WAKH]* 5
Independent State Recommended *[Radio Monte Carlo]* 5
PNC Meeting Reportedly Set for 25 Oct *[Tunis]* 6
PNSF Will Not Attend
'Arafat Outlines Options for Palestinian State *[KUNA]* 6
'Arafat Addresses Appeal to Palestinians *[Radio Monte Carlo]* 6
'Arafat To Visit Moscow Within '24 Hours' *[MENA]* 7
PLO Denies Contacts With 'Zionist' Circles *[INA]* 7

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

Thousands Participate in Riots, Demonstrations 8
Bendjedid Receives Officials 8
Bendjedid Reassures 'Arafat *[Baghdad Voice of the PLO]* 8
FLN Politburo Takes Measures 8
900 Arrested for Sabotage, Looting 8
Riots Spread to Oran *[AFP]* 8
'Calm' Prevails in Capital 9
Public Asked To Respect Military 9
Public Reminded Not To Gather 9
Military Command Alters Curfew 10
Minister Queried on Unrest *[Paris]* 10
Army Fires on Demonstrators *[Paris]* 10
Workers Urged To Work 8 Oct 10
'Nightmare' Continues; Army Intervenes Oct 8 11
Bendjedid Confers With Salih *[Sanaa]* 11
Bendjedid Views Developments 11
Bendjedid Confers With Khediri 11
Interior Minister on Situation 11
Streets Resuming 'Usual Activity' 12
'State of Siege' Continues *[Paris]* 12
Group Claims Responsibility *[AFP]* 12
Communique on Situation 13
Security Forces Kill 'Several' *[AFP]* 13
Further on 8 Oct Violence *[AFP]* 13

Calm Restored in Algiers 14
Troops Open Fire on Protesters *[AFP]* 14
Unrest Spreads to Annaba *[Paris]* 15
Higher Education Unaffected 15
Airline Flights Resumed 15
Trade Union Appeals to Workers 15
More Than 200 Dead; Unrest Continues 9 Oct 15
'At Least' 100 Dead in Riots *[AFP]* 15
'More Than' 170 Dead *[AFP]* 16
More Shooting During Curfew *[Paris]* 16
French Passenger Interviewed *[Paris]* 16
Life Returning to 'Normal' 17
Shops, Public Offices Open 17
'Violence' in Kabylie Region *[Paris]* 17
170 Killed in Demonstrations *[Paris]* 17
Movement Issues Ultimatum *[AFP]* 18
24-Hour Ultimatum Issued *[Paris]* 18
Special Courts To Try Rioters 18
National Products Fair Postponed 18
Deaths Reported; President Bendjedid Speaks 18
Life Returns to Normal 18
20,000 March Through Algiers *[AFP]* 19
Demonstrators Gather in Algiers *[Paris]* 19
10 Killed in Demonstration *[AFP]* 19
25 Killed in Demonstration *[AFP]* 19
Minister: Bendjedid in Control *[Paris]* 20
Bendjedid Addresses Nation 20
Marches Support Bendjedid 22
'Bitter' Reaction to Address *[Paris]* 23
Islamic Council Issues 'Appeal' 23
Embassy 'Source' Describes Disturbances *[Amman AL-RA'Y 10 Oct]* 23
Paper Blames 'Manipulation' of 'Naive Elements' 24
Commentary Urges Public To Prevent Sabotage 24
APS Reporter Dies 'While Accomplishing His Duty' 24

Egypt

Officials Voice 'Concern' Over Algerian Situation 25
Ghali on 'Bolstering' Ties 25
Mubarak Appeals to Algerians 25
Mubarak Expresses 'Regret' 25
MENA Interviews Shamir on Tabah, 'Uprising' 25
Egypt's Abu Ghazalah Warns Israel Over Satellite *[Beirut Voice of Lebanon]* 26
'Abd al-Majid Talks With PLO's Hani al-Hasan 26

Libya

'Arafat Discusses Resolutions With Al-Qadhdhafi 27
Jabir Meets Sudanese General, Minister 27
OPEC Conference on Oil Prices Urged 27
Zairian Airliner Forced To Land in Tripoli 27

Tunisia

President Ben Ali Assures Bendjedid of Support 27

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Kuwait

Algeria's Bendjedid: Situation Back to 'Normal' 28
British Decision Inflicts 'Great Damage' *[AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM 7 Oct]* 28
'Regret' Expressed Over Move 28

Qatar

Minister, Perez de Cuellar Discuss Gulf Peace 28
Soviet Official Denies Naval Facilities on Coast *[AL-ITTIHAD 7 Oct]* 29

Saudi Arabia

King Fahd Addresses Council on Algeria, Lebanon 29
Official Urges Information Experts To Back Iraq 29
Oil Minister Denies Plan To Leave OPEC 30

Yemen Arab Republic

Sanaa Radio on Foreign Minister's UN Speech 30

IRAQ

Hammadi on Talks With Iran, U.S. 'Campaign' *[Kuwait AL-ANBA' 6 Oct]* 31

ISRAEL

Rabin: Rioters Should Expect Casualties 35
Rabin: No Need To React to PLO Moves 35
Cabinet Briefed on Sharon East Europe Trips 35
Level of Delegation Leader in Moscow Raised 35
Anti-Occupation Demonstration in Tel Aviv 35
Explosive Charge Safely Dismantled in 'Afula 36
Manifesto Calls for Death of Collaborators 36
W. Bank School Workers Put on Leave Without Pay *[HA'RETZ 10 Oct]* 36
Riots, IDF Moves Mark 11th Month of 'Uprising' 36
3 Dead, 14 Wounded in Nabulus 36
House Demolished in Gaza 36
W. Bank Strike, Nabulus Curfew 36
2 Reported Dead 36
'Many' Incidents in Gaza Strip 37
Strikes, Curfews in Territories 37
1 Killed at Gaza Strip Border 37
2 Killed in Hebron 37
IDF Conducts Searches *[THE JERUSALEM POST 10 Oct]* 37
Gaza Strip Curfews Lifted 38
Police Attacked in Jerusalem 38
Buses Attacked in Jerusalem 38
Arabs Wounded in W. Bank, Gaza 38
Arab Dies in Fight With Jew 38
SLA Kills 2 'Terrorists' in S. Lebanon 38

JORDAN

USSR Reportedly To Supply Jordan With MiG-29's *[Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF 10 Oct]* 39
Awqaf Minister Says W. Bank Funding To Continue *[JORDAN TIMES 10 Oct]* 39
Prime Minister Returns From Visit to UK *[SAWT AL-SHA'B 11 Oct]* 39
Monte Carlo: UAE Grants $100 Million in Aid 39
Amman Notes U.S. Immunity for Israeli Officials 39

LEBANON

3 Britons To Be Freed; U.S. Hostages by 8 Nov 40
Terry Waite To Be Freed *[Radio Monte Carlo]* 40
AL-ITTIHAD Cited on New U.S. Plan *[WAKH]* 40
Al-Shar': No Alternative to Unification 40
Links Hostages, Elections *[VOL]* 40
Views Hostages, Ties With U.S. *[MENA]* 41

Al-Huss on French Initiative, Federation Plan 41
Rejects Federal Solution 41
Iraq's Ramadan Supports 'Awn Government *[VOL]* 42
Ramadan Statement 'Astonishing' 42
Rabin Reportedly Visits East Beirut *[Kuwait AL-SIYASAH 8 Oct]* 43
Sfayr Authorized To Choose President *[VOL]* 43
Lahd Reportedly To Proclaim Independent State 43
Lahd Position in Shwayya Attacked, Casualties *[VOM]* 44
Amal, Hizballah Clash in Al-Biqa'; 1 Killed *[VOL]* 44
Ulema Decide To Withdraw Gunmen After Clash *[VOM]* 44
Israeli Patrol Attacked by Resistance Forces *[Voice of the People]* 44
Syrians Fire Missile at Israeli Drone 6 Oct *[Voice of Lebanon]* 44
Syrians Down Israeli Reconnaissance Plane 44
'Zionist-U.S. Drone' Shot Down on 8 Oct 45
Israeli Aircraft Fly Over Sidon, Camps *[VOM]* 45
Israeli Mock Raids Over Sidon; Tanker Searched 45
Israeli Aircraft Fly Over Sidon, Camps 9 Oct *[VOL]* 45
Fly Over Al-Nabatiyah *[RFL]* 45

SYRIA

Al-Shar' Meets Murphy, Perez de Cuellar, Others 46
Returns From UN Talks 46
Al-Shar' Says U.S. 'Committed' to Agreement *[KUNA]* 46
Al-Shar': 'Ball Is Now in the American Court' *[Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD 8 Oct]* 46
Reportage on Visit of Ethiopia's Mengistu 47
Arrives 10 Oct 47
Meets Al-Asad 47
Gives Banquet Speech 48
Al-Asad Delivers Speech 49
'Closed Session' Held 51

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Sharq, UN Officials Discuss Rocket Attacks 52
Pakistani Charge Summoned for 1 Oct 'Violation' 52
94th, 95th Notes Submitted to UN Mission 52
96th Memorandum Submitted 52
Hikmatyar Says Attacks on Soviets To Continue *[AFP]* 52
'Foreign Observer' Killed During Group Clash 53
Kabul Details Clashes With 'Extremists' 53
Operations in Badakhshan Area 53
Operations in Provinces Noted 53
Missiles Hit Qandahar, Farah 54
Islamabad Reports Mujahidin Operations 54
150 Kabul Men Surrender 54
Operations in Farah, Qandahar 54
Paktika Garrison Captured 54
Operations in Konarha, Zabol 54

Bangladesh

Ershad Receives Iraqi Envoy, Saddam Letter *[INA]* 55
Delhi: 80 Students Injured in 10 Oct Clashes 55

India

President on Pakistani Support for 'Terrorists' 55
Further on President's Speech 55

China's Qichen Assures 'Warm Welcome' for Gandhi 56
High-Level Delegation to China Returns 9 Oct 56
Newsmen Briefed on Visit 56
Ministers Urge Calm in Hindu-Muslim Conflict 56
15 'Terrorists' Arrested, 2 Killed in Punjab 56
'Terrorists' Kill 3 in Punjab 57
Former Congress-I Minister Shot 57
'Indefinite Curfew' Imposed in Aligarh 57
CPI-M Comments on Party Rule, Communalism 57
Opposition Parties Differ on Merger Issue 57
Lok Dal Leaders Split 57
5 North Koreans, $44 Million of Heroin Seized *[AFP]* 57

Iran

Khamene'i Delivers Friday Prayers Sermon 58
Absentees, Deserters Given Extra Week To Report 61
Plan Minister, Khamene'i Discuss Reconstruction 62
Statement on Prophet's Death Anniversary Issued 62
Khamene'i, Musavi Speeches 62
Montazeri Meets With Khomeyni's Son 63
Talks With UK on Resuming Ties Reach Impasse 63
Japanese Group Explores Resumption of Project 63
Velayati Holds News Conference in New York 64
Returns to Tehran, Views Talks 64
On Success of Talks 65
Commentary Views Velayati's UN Speech 65
Iraqi Violations of Cease-Fire Listed 66
'Secret' Talks With U.S. on Hostages Noted *[Radio of the Iranian Toilers]* 68

Pakistan

Minister Threatens To Ban Groups To End Violence 68
Curfew Relaxed in Karachi, Hyderabad Areas 8 Oct 68
High-Level Meeting Reviews Sind Situation 68
Assembly Elections Scheduled for 16, 19 Nov 68
Delhi Reports Split in National People's Party 69
Benazir Facing Problems With MRD Partners *[BBC]* 69
Spokesman Rejects Reports on Election Delay 69
MRD Chief Calls For Boycott of Elections *[AFP]* 70
Industry Minister To Resign, Join Junejo Faction *[Delhi]* 70

Sri Lanka

Premadasa To Seek Indian Troop Withdrawal *[AFP]* 70
Hopes To 'Replace' India Accord *[Delhi TV]* 71
Jayewardene Gives UNP Leadership to Premadasa 71
Forces on Alert To Counter Sinhala 'Militants' *[Delhi]* 71
LTTE Suspected in Sinhalese Massacre *[Delhi]* 71
LTTE Denies Killing; Blames Rivals *[AFP]* 72
LTTE Leader, 156 Detainees Released in Madras *[Delhi]* 72
Delhi Reports Bomb Blast in Downtown Colombo 72

11 October Middle East and South Asia Review

LD1110130088 [Editorial Report]

Algeria

President Chadli Bendjedid appealed to the nation to reject rioting and sabotage and to support a new package of reforms which will be announced soon in an effort to resolve the country's problems. Speaking in an address broadcast by Algiers television 10 October, Bendjedid said the changes will include a program of political reforms which "will be submitted to the citizens so that they express themselves on it." The political reforms are designed to eliminate the "monopoly of power" at all levels and allow parliament and other institutions to play their role in "control" and "follow up," he said. Bendjedid also stressed that the government will shortly implement measures to mitigate the economic crisis, giving special assistance to low income groups and young people.

The president acknowledged that the present government has "numerous" shortcomings, but stressed that reforms cannot be carried out in an atmosphere of "chaos and sabotage" and that the recent acts of destruction are no way to solve the country's problems. Defending his decision to use the Armed Forces against rioters, he said there was no other solution as the country would otherwise have slipped into anarchy and civil war. He expressed regret over casualties but added that his first duty as president was to take the necessary measures to protect the state and the nation.

Algiers radio reported that Bendjedid's speech was welcomed by public demonstrations of support in Oran and other cities. Meanwhile, life in Algiers was returning to "normality," the radio said. The interior minister acknowledged in a 9 October statement carried by the radio that the rioting was not confined to Algiers, but had spread to Oran, Mostaganem, Tiaret, and Annaba over the weekend. According to Algiers television, security forces had arrested about 900 rioters as of 7 October.

A military command communique carried by the television stated that Algiers was still under overnight curfew between 2200 and 0500 local time. Schools in the capital have been closed so parents can ensure that their sons will not fall victim to "incitement and tricks," Algiers radio noted. The radio also broadcast an appeal by the Higher Islamic Council urging people to take care not be led "astray" into "trouble-making and sabotage," which is a "corruption" of religion.

The Algerian media's reports of a return to normality were not borne out by accounts of the situation from Paris radio and AFP, which cited reports that over 200 people were killed in disturbances up to 9 October and at least 25 more were killed when security forces dispersed a demonstration in the capital 10 October. Some 20,000 people participated in this protest, which was dispersed by machinegun fire near the National Security Headquarters in the Bab-el-Oued area of Algiers, AFP said. The security forces gave the crowd a 2-minute warning to disperse, but Muslim fundamentalists stood their ground as others panicked and fled.

The death toll in other confrontations with security forces included at least 115 in Algiers, 17 in Oran, and 10 in Annaba, Paris radio reported. The heaviest clash in Algiers occurred the night of 8 October when around 60 people died in "very violent" clashes. The radio said that the disturbances in Algiers were being organized by Muslim fundamentalists and were receiving encouragement from communiques issued by the "People's Movement for Algerian Renewal."

One such communique called for the resignation of the government, dissolution of the FLN, and election of local people's committees, AFP noted. The agency also said that some 8,000 Muslim fundamentalists marched through the Belcourt district of Algiers after Friday prayers shouting slogans in favor of an "Islamic Republic."

Among foreign comment, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak appealed to the Algerian people to be "prudent" and he expressed hope that the Algerian leadership will succeed in controlling the situation, MENA reported. The Saudi cabinet condemned the "acts of sabotage carried out by irresponsible elements" in Algeria, reaffirmed the Kingdom's support for Bendjedid and his government, and expressed hope that the situation will return to normal as soon as possible, SPA noted.

PLO Affairs

The Palestinian leadership has "unanimously" decided to announce the establishment of a Palestinian "state," Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf announced in a statement cited by KUNA 10 October. Speaking at the end of several days of PLO leadership meetings in Tunis, Khalaf added that the PNC will convene before the Israeli and U.S. elections and indicated that a date will be announced shortly. Tunis radio stated earlier that the PNC will convene during the fourth week of October, noting one report that the session will begin on 25 October in Algeria. Palestinian sources cited by Algiers radio likewise state the PNC will convene in Algeria before the end of the month.

In Damascus, Fatah dissident leader Colonel Sa'id Musa affirmed that his Fatah "Provisional Command" will not participate in the PNC meeting, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

Israel: Occupied Territories

IDF soldiers killed 2 Palestinians and wounded 25 others during a 9 October sweep of over 30 West Bank villages, THE JERUSALEM POST reported. The search-and-arrest operations coincided with a general strike in the territories marking the start of the 11th month of the

uprising. A third Arab was shot dead the same day after trying to stab an Israeli security man at the Rafah border terminal, IDF radio noted. A youth was also critically wounded after trying to attack an IDF soldier in a West Bank village 10 October, according to Jerusalem radio. Eighteen Arabs were injured during disturbances in the West Bank and Gaza 8 October, the radio noted.

In remarks reported by Jerusalem radio 8 October, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin warned rioters they must expect to be hurt if they confront the IDF, pointing out "this is my policy and I am responsible for it." Rabin estimated that 250 people have been killed, 7,000 wounded, and 18,000 detained since the start of the uprising. There are currently 5,600 detainees in army facilities, in addition to 4,000 jailed "terrorists," he said.

Jordan

Egypt's ROSE AL-YUSUF reported that Jordan has concluded an arms deal with the USSR for the supply of air defense systems and MiG-29 aircraft. The magazine said the deal stems from the U.S. failure to respond to Jordan's demands for military equipment.

Lebanon

Political Situation—Twenty-nine Christian parliamentary deputies authorized Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Sfayr to choose a presidential candidate and negotiate an agreement on the presidential election, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. During their 10 October meeting at Bkirki the deputies also pledged to abide by the outcome of Sfayr's efforts to end the crisis.

In West Beirut, Prime Minister Salim al-Huss denounced statements on the Christian side favoring a federal system in Lebanon, Beirut radio noted. Referring to a federation proposal by Lebanese Forces commander Samir Ja'ja', Al-Huss said this formula will lead to partition and "endless war" between different areas, and he accused Ja'ja' of behaving "as if he is the sole decisionmaker in determining the national destiny." Al-Huss had earlier visited Damascus for talks on Lebanon with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, according to the radio.

Meanwhile, a source in the Al-Huss government denounced remarks on the Lebanese situation by Iraq's Taha Yasin Ramadan as "astonishing, incorrect, and rejected," Beirut radio reported. Ramadan, the first deputy prime minister of Iraq, had told Kuwait's AL-ANBA' that General Michel 'Awn's government in East Beirut was formed constitutionally and that the Al-Huss government "has no legal basis."

Drones—In the wake of the alleged downing of an Israeli drone 6 October, Beirut radio announced that a second drone was shot down by a Syrian SAM-6 missile over the Al-Biqa' Valley 7 October. The clandestine Al-Quds Palestinian Arab radio claimed that another drone was downed over southern Lebanon 8 October.

Iran-Iraq Negotiations

Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati announced over the weekend that Iran and Iraq have agreed "in principle" to the UN secretary general's proposal, which calls for mutual withdrawal to international borders, Iran dropping its rights to search ships in the Strait of Hormuz, and an exchange of POW's. Speaking in an interview reported by IRNA, Velayati also stated that the talks in New York were "more successful" than the previous talks in Geneva, but he said progress was still hindered by the Iraqi delegates' lack of authority to make decisions on their own.

Despite Velayati's statement, monitored Iraqi media were not observed to mention any agreement on the UN secretary general's proposal.

Iran

Reconstruction—President 'Ali Khamene'i emphasized in a Friday sermon carried by Tehran radio that the prime minister, the Majlis speaker, chief justice, and himself hold "unanimous" views on the reconstruction issue. All are united in believing Iran must rely on its own resources whenever possible, but that foreign resources should be used in projects for which domestic resources are insufficient or inadequate, he said. Reconstruction planning must be based on Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's 3 October message, which contained nine "important" points and was "expressive, explicit, and comprehensive."

In a related development, Tehran radio announced that a 16-man Japanese delegation arrived in Iran 7 October to investigate possibilities of resuming the joint Iranian-Japanese petrochemical project in Bandar-e Khomeyni.

ROK Arms Denial—The South Korean energy minister denied an Israeli press report that during a recent visit to Tehran he signed an agreement to supply Iran with Korean-made spare parts for F-5 aircraft, Seoul television reported. The ROK official was responding to the claim by Tel Aviv's THE NATION that the United States approved such a deal as part of a series of moves aimed at securing the release of U.S. hostages in Lebanon.

Oil Issues

OPEC—Libya is calling for the convening of an extraordinary conference of the OPEC Ministerial Council as soon as possible so that measures can be taken to stop the price fall, restore market stability, and increase prices to levels which are "fair" to both producers and consumers, JANA reported 9 October. Meanwhile, the Saudi oil minister told SPA that Saudi Arabia is unhappy with the

current market situation and does not consider itself responsible for creating it. He stressed the Kingdom is not thinking of leaving OPEC.

Kuwait on British Petroleum—Responding to Britain's decision to cut Kuwait's stake in British Petroleum by more than half, a Kuwaiti official cited by KUNA said his government has decided to take "all necessary measures to protect Kuwait's economic interests in Britain." The British decision was criticized by Kuwait's AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM as a "stab in the back from a presumed friend" and a "blow to the free economic order."

Afghanistan

A 10 October rocket attack on Jalalabad by "criminal extremists" killed 20 people and wounded 32 others, Kabul radio announced. Three people were killed and five injured in a similar attack on Kabul the previous day, the radio reported, while seven others were killed and nine injured in recent attacks on Qandahar and Farah. Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry summoned the Pakistani charge d'affaires to protest a "clear violation" of Afghan territory by Pakistani armed forces, the radio noted. The report alleged that 500 armed Pakistani militiamen crossed into Afghanistan 1 October to help Afghan rebels capture security posts and the garrison of Zabol.

Recent Soviet television reportage on Afghanistan included a 7 October report which acknowledged that the Afghan Air Force has lost 14 planes and 36 helicopters shot down over Afghanistan since the Geneva Accords came into force in May. A 9 October Moscow television report warned that "the enemy is strong, and must not be underestimated."

Mujahidin sources cited by AFP 11 October announced that resistance forces have captured Asadabad, capital of Konar Province.

Sudan

The SPLA's clandestine radio announced that SPLA units scored "another major victory" over the Sudanese Army by capturing the "strategic" garrison town of Ikotos in eastern Equatoria. SPLA forces overran the town 7 October after a 3-day battle which left 62 government soldiers killed. Over 250 other soldiers from the Ikotos garrison fled to Uganda, the radio added.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Progress in Egypt-Libya Talks on Expelled Workers

LD0710133488 Kuwait KUNA in English 1239 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Geneva, Oct 7 (KUNA)—Egypt and Libya had made "significant progress" in direct talks between them held in Geneva last month aimed at settling their dispute on compensation caused by the expulsion of thousands of Egyptian workers from Libya in 1985, diplomatic sources here said Friday.

The talks between government officials from both sides, along with representatives of the Egyptian Federation of Workers, were held in the presence of members of the International Labour Office (ILO), which has been trying to resolve the affair since early 1987.

A report on the progress made, "which was considered to be very promising", was expected to be presented to the ILO's governing body during November, the sources said.

A previous series of contacts between Egypt and Libya conducted by ILO Director-General Francis Blanchard in 1987 had failed to bring a settlement any closer, they recalled. They noted, however, that a full statement, had not yet been achieved.

The ILO's involvement in the affair stems from an Egyptian complaint to the Geneva organisation that Libya's expulsion of many thousands of its workers in the summer of 1985 violated Articles 11 and 95 of its charter.

Many of the deported workers complained that not all the salaries owing to them had been paid, that they were not compensated for social security payments they had made, and that they had not been able to take all their belongings with them.

Between August and October that year the Libyans expelled 32,000 Tunisian workers and large numbers of others from Egypt, Mali, Niger, Mauritania and Syria.

ILO mediation efforts between Tunisia and Libya in 1986 and 1987 were successful in bringing about a full settlement of a similar dispute between the two countries, but details of the accord have so far not been given to the labour office here.

The exact number of Egyptians expelled by Libya was never registered in documents presented to the ILO.

When the Egyptians were expelled Libya said that the action was in retaliation to an order in Cairo barring Libyan workers from Egypt and also in order to promote self-sufficiency.

Libya Withdraws After Egypt Admitted to Meeting

NC0510154988 Cairo MENA in English 1422 GMT 5 Oct 88

[Text] Tunis, Oct 5 (MENA)—Egypt participated for the first time in the meetings of the national committees of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (ALECSO). The organization cancelled a resolution on freezing Egypt's membership in July.

Egyptian Higher Education Undersecretary Fawzi 'Abd al-Zahir attended the meetings in his capacity as the secretary general of the Egyptian National Committee for Education, Culture and Science.

Libya's delegate withdrew from the meetings which started last night due to Egypt's participation.

The Syrian delegate registered his objection but attended the meetings.

Palestinian Affairs

Reportage on Meeting of PLO Leaders in Tunis

'Independence Document' Approved

NC0910115488 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1120 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Tunis, 9 Oct (MENA)—'Abdallah Hurani, member of the PLO Executive Committee and head of the PLO Cultural Department, has declared that the PNC will hold its emergency meeting at the end of October or early November.

In a statement to Samir al-'Ajuz, MENA correspondent in North Africa, Hurani said that Palestinian leaders meeting in the past 2 days have approved the independence document which confirms the sovereignty of the Palestinian people on their land. He said this document will end the state of political vacuum in the occupied territories by affirming the Palestinian identity of the land and people.

Hurani added that the independence document will be based on UN Resolution 181 issued in 1947. This resolution called for the establishment of two states, one Jewish and the other Arab, thus giving the Palestinians a legal status equal to that of Israel. [passage omitted]

Leaders End Meetings

JN0910163388 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] The Palestinian leaders have ended a series of meetings in Tunis without announcing the date and venue of the extraordinary PNC session. WAFA only said the discussion dealt with the date of the PNC session.

Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, head of the Information Department, had announced that an agreement had been reached on holding the PNC session at the end of this month.

Palestinian sources said a new round of consultations will be held in Tunis following the Palestinian delegation's return from Moscow. This delegation left for Moscow today under PLO Political Department head Faruq Qaddumi.

Khalaf on Creating State

LD1010123088 Kuwait KUNA in English 0811 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 10 (KUNA)—The Palestinian leadership has unanimously decided to announce the establishment of the Palestinian state and the endorsement of the sovereignty document, a leading Palestinian official said Monday.

In a telephone call with daily "AL-QABAS" from Tunis, member of the Fatah Central Committee Salah Khalaf noted, "We announce this to the whole world and through AL-QABAS. It is a memorable day in the Palestinian history."

Khalaf, better known as Abu Iyad, who took part in the meetings of Palestinian leaderships in Tunis, added, "We've agreed on all points and also the strategic plan for the next stage."

He said that the matter of announcing the provisional government has been left for the Executive Committee and the Central Council to discuss in the time they see fit.

Abu Iyad noted that the sovereignty document aims at filling the political gap which resulted from Jordan's hands-off policy with the West Bank.

The ranking Palestinian official denied that Moscow has asked the PLO to postpone the declaration of the Palestinian state, saying, "The Soviets have told us that they will support any Palestinian decision" and that a PLO delegation will visit the Soviet capital to inform the Kremlin of the new Palestinian steps.

The delegation which Abu Iyad spoke of left Tunis yesterday, comprising Faruq Qaddumi, Mahmud 'Abbas, Yasir 'Abd Rabuh and 'Abdallah Hurani.

He affirmed that the Palestine National Council will convene before the Israeli and U.S. elections, "and that's our final decision," indicating that the date of the PNC session will be announced in the coming few days.

PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat had described the next PNC meeting as "the session of the historic decision and re-writing the history of the region."

HAMAS Taking Part in Talks

JN1010122488 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1000 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Dubayy, 10 Oct (WAKH)—A high-ranking Palestinian official has disclosed that the Islamic resistance movement in the occupied territory, known as HAMAS, is taking part in the meetings held by the Palestinian leaders in the Tunisian capital since last Thursday.

In a statement to the Dubayy-based AL-BAYAN published today, PLO Executive Committee member 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad said that HAMAS and the Popular Struggle Front are participating in the meetings of the Palestinian leaders together with the five factions which form the PLO. The PFLP-GC and Al-Sa'iqah are the only factions absent from these meetings.

The Palestinian official said the meetings have stopped waiting for the consultations being held in Moscow by a Palestinian delegation led by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department. 'Abd al-Rahim denied the existence of differences in the stands of the factions participating in the meetings.

However, he noted that the Arab Front for the Liberation of Palestine led by him calls for not defining the borders of the Palestinian state to be proclaimed and for leaving this subject open for the coming Palestinian generations out of the Palestinian people's historical right to the Palestinian territory.

Meanwhile, other factions call for referring to international legitimacy with all its details and to the partition Resolution No 181 calling for the existence of Palestinian and Israeli states.

'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad added that the formula chosen calls for proclaiming an independent Palestinian state and for taking into consideration the nature of this state and its legal, political, and social characteristics, particularly since it will be considered a birth certificate for each Palestinian.

Independent State Recommended

JN1010112988 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] An urgent REUTER dispatch, received a few minutes ago, says the Palestinian leaders, who have been meeting in Tunis since Friday, have decided to recommend that the PNC proclaim the establishment of an independent Palestinian state upon holding its next session by the end of this month.

Jamil Hilal, head of the PLO's information service, who made this statement to REUTER, added that the Palestinian leaders also decided to postpone the formation of a provisional government.

PNC Meeting Reportedly Set for 25 Oct

LD0910084988 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Press reports in Abu Dhabi indicated this morning that a responsible PLO source had revealed that the date of the extraordinary PNC meeting finally had been set for 25 October in Algeria.

The organisation's Information Department director said that apart from two formations, all factions of the Palestinian revolution taking part in the current consultations in Tunis would attend the extraordinary PNC meeting.

He noted the factions now were endeavoring to examine and prepare the declaration of independence that is to be announced and through which the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and the formation of a provisional government are to be announced during the extraordinary PNC meeting.

PNSF Will Not Attend

JN0910070488 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0600 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] It seems the PNSF will not participate in the upcoming PNC session. Affirming this in Damascus yesterday, Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], Fatah Provisional Command [dissident] leader, said the PNC will form a government and adopt a political program including, with Washington's approval, clear recognition of Israel.

Abu Musa voiced the belief that Yasir 'Arafat will recognize Israel, thus conceding the last card in his hand without obtaining anything in return, as he put it.

'Arafat Outlines Options for Palestinian State

LD0910085588 Kuwait KUNA in English 0809 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 9 (KUNA)—The Palestinian leadership meetings in Tunis held in the past few days agreed on the document for the announcement of the Palestinian independence and the political declaration that are to be issued by the forthcoming session of the Palestine National Council (parliament-in-exile), a Kuwaiti newspaper said Sunday.

Quoting unnamed sources in Tunis, "AL-WATAN" daily said PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has rejected an Egyptian proposal to visit Jordan which decided to cut legal and administrative links with the occupied West Bank last July.

Arafat, according to the sources, told the Egyptian officials he met during his recent visit to Cairo that there is no need for a visit to Jordan and he proposed a meeting with King Husayn of Jordan outside Jordan but this was rejected by the Jordanian monarch.

According to the paper, 'Arafat has listed four options that the Palestinian leadership might resort to after taking into consideration the fact that the best option, namely, putting the occupied territories under international protection, would face an American veto.

The first option is declaring the Palestinian state on the basis of historical right and international legitimacy.

The second is declaring an independent Palestinian state and forming a government with a political program.

The third option is declaring a Palestinian state and a government but without a political program and the fourth is placing the occupied territories under European supervision which was proposed by Italy and accepted by France, Spain and Greece, but opposed by other countries such as Britain and Belgium.

The paper said the Palestinian leadership has agreed to declare an independent Palestinian state at the next PNC meeting but the declaration would emphasize that "the PLO Executive Committee and the Palestinian Central Council have the authority to form a government at the appropriate time and circumstances."

To find a solution to the problem of the program for the proposed government, it was agreed that the PLO program should remain as it is but a flexible political announcement be made by the council, the paper said.

'Arafat Addresses Appeal to Palestinians

JN0910132088 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat addressed an appeal to the Palestinian people today on the occasion of the beginning of the 11th month of the uprising and announced that the uprising has now reached the point of no return and has become too strong to suppress, abort, or uproot.

'Arafat said the Palestinian leadership is currently preparing to hold an extraordinary PNC session under the slogan "the uprising session" to support the uprising and entrench its results.

Arafat added this session will be the session of a fateful and historic decision for the Palestinian people, as the options available to the Palestinians will be discussed to decide the most suitable plans for wresting national independence and building an independent Palestinian state whose capital would be Jerusalem.

Algeria

Thousands Participate in Riots, Demonstrations

Bendjedid Receives Officials

LD0710182088 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, received Major General Abdallah Belhouchet, deputy minister in charge of the General Staff of the People's Army, and General Khaled Nezzar, commander of the ground forces, who presented him with a review of the latest developments in Algiers and the measures adopted.

Bendjedid Reassures 'Arafat

JN0810203888 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1946 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, yesterday evening held a telephone conversation with his brother, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, to reassure himself about developments in fraternal Algeria.

Brother President Bendjedid reassured brother leader Abu 'Ammar about all aspects of the situation. Bendjedid said fraternal Algeria managed to contain the consequences of the regrettable recent incidents. These incidents have as their target the stability and security of the fraternal Algerian people as well as the committed national, pan-Arab line being shouldered by Algerian and its leadership and people toward the pan-Arab march in general and supporting and backing the Palestine question and the blessed Palestinian people's uprising in particular.

FLN Politburo Takes Measures

LD0710192588 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] The [FLN] Political Bureau met this afternoon at the presidential palace under the chairmanship of Mr Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and FLN secretary general.

The Political Bureau reviewed the latest developments and also the adopted measures to restore public security, safety, and protection of property and persons.

900 Arrested for Sabotage, Looting

LD0710170288 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] The security services have arrested about 900 persons redhanded committing sabotage and stealing public and private property. There is continuous investigation in order to pinpoint those responsible.

Riots Spread to Oran

NC0710174588 Paris AFP in English 1719 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Algiers, Oct 7 (AFP)—Up to 8,000 Moslem fundamentalists defied a state of siege in the Algerian capital and confronted riot police Friday in a new demonstration there as riots spread to the country's second city, Oran.

Military authorities acknowledged that an unspecified number of people had been killed in two days of riots over the government's economic austerity measures, and medical sources said at least four had died.

A reliable source in Oran, about 300 kilometres (190 miles) west of Algiers, told AFP by telephone that at least seven people had died as riots broke out there on Friday.

The offices of the French airline Air France in Oran were sacked and firing was heart as Army units took up position on the city's main streets, the source said.

Eyewitnesses in Algiers said between 6,000 and 8,000 young Moslem fundamentalists, led by a white-turbaned religious leader and shouting "Islamic Republic" and "God is the only God", marched through the city's eastern Belfort quarter after Friday prayers.

CNS [expansion unknown] riot police took up position to prevent them from reaching the May 1 area, downtown, where other demonstrators were clashing with security forces who tried to disperse them with water hoses and tear gas.

Witnesses said the groups downtown apparently were trying to reach the morgue at Mustapha hospital to claim bodies of riot victims.

Police had the largest demonstration under control an hour after it began, witnesses said.

In a communique earlier, the Algerian military command, responsible for the capital's administration under the state of siege decreed by President Chadli Bendjedid on Thursday, said there had been "loss of life" among demonstrators and security forces.

'Arafat To Visit Moscow Within '24 Hours'

NC0810181388 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1745 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Tunis, 8 Oct (MENA)—The MENA correspondent in Tunis has learned that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will begin an official visit to the USSR with in the next 24 hours.

During his visit to Moscow, 'Arafat will discuss the latest developments in the Palestinian issue in light of the Jordanian decision to sever administrative and legal ties with the West Bank and other developments in the Arab world.

It should be recalled that Tunisian press reports yesterday said Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has presented a proposal for peace in the Middle East to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. The proposal consists of seven points, foremost of which is the establishment of a federation between Jordan and a Palestinian state.

PLO Denies Contacts With 'Zionist' Circles

JN1010174088 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1712 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Tunis, 10 Oct (INA)—The PLO has denied reports disseminated by Zionist circles about alleged contacts with the PLO. In a statement by an official spokesman here today, the PLO affirmed that such reports are totally fabricated and aim to harm the Palestinian people's struggle and their determination to continue the blessed uprising until an independent Palestinian state is established on Palestinian national soil.

It did not say how many people had been killed or where clashes occurred, but it made a fresh call for calm and appealed to the population to stay off the streets following two days of riots. A curfew was imposed Thursday.

Medical sources said at least one person was killed in the suburb of Bachjarah, where tanks took up positions Thursday.

Demonstrators in another area, El-Harrach, told AFP a young protester had been shot and killed in the Belfort quarter and was to be buried Friday.

An Algerian doctor, Bouzidi Nabila, told AFP Thursday night that two of her cousins, aged 14 and 23, were killed in clashes with security forces in the El Biar neighborhood of Algiers.

At the Birtraria Hospital, where her relatives were taken, she had seen other bodies of people shot, Dr. Nabila added.

Meanwhile at the fundamentalist Sounna de Bab-el-Oued Mosque, where services were held as a helicopter hovered over the district, the imam told worshippers he planned to contact authorities to ask for bodies of children killed that were still in the Mustapha hospital morgue to be returned to their parents.

He appealed for calm, asked citizens to donate blood for the wounded, and called on the government to lift the state of siege. He also criticised the Algerian news media for "its silence".

At least 10 tanks took up position around another fundamentalist mosque, in Chevalley, near El Biar, and soldiers armed with automatic pistols steered worshippers as they left the building.

Alghough no figures were available on the number injured in the capital, the figure is believed to be high, judging from the number of ambulances heard rushing through the city, particularly Thursday. [passage omitted]

'Calm' Prevails in Capital

LD0710181788 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Following the painful incidents which occurred in the capital and the regrettable situation which has resulted from these incidents, life has gradually begun to resume its normal course in the various quarters of the city as the movement of persons and vehicles begins.

Our teams, as you can see, have toured the various quarters of the capital and have noticed that a spontaneous solidarity action of cleaning up the city has started to restore the streets to their original appearance. These solidarity operations have facilitated the movement of traffic and persons.

With the calm which is now prevailing in the capital, the citizens are recovering the necessary security and tranquility for carrying out their work and affairs normally, in their own interest and that of society.

These citizens are concerned with the cleanliness of their capital and the safety of property. They are clearing the streets and quarters from the rubble and waste which has accumulated to improve the appearance of the capital.

Thus, normal life is gradually returning to the city of Algiers after 2 days of regrettable incidents. [video shows people cleaning the streets, traffic moving, and people walking along the streets. A helicopter is shown flying over the city. A few soldiers and police vehicles are shown]

Public Asked To Respect Military

LD0710173888 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. To restore calm in our white city of Algiers, it is requested that citizens respect and not violate the instructions continued in the announcements which have been made public by the Military Command, all of which aim at ensuring and safeguarding the security and tranquility of the citizen.

The Military Command is convinced that the calls it has addressed will find their desired echoes in the citizens to protect their safety and property.

Discipline and calm are among the characteristics of a good Algerian citizen.

Public Reminded Not To Gather

LD0710184488 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1808 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Communique from the Military Command charged with restoring public order:

The Military Command charged with restoring public order reminds the citizens of Algiers that no gatherings of any kind are allowed in public roads during the imposed state of siege. So that nobody shirks from their responsibility, it stresses again that those who contravene this will expose themselves to the rigor of the law.

The Military Command also reminds them that orders have been issued to the forces of intervention to use their weapons against all those who refuse to comply at once with the orders to disperse calmly. The Military Command also announces its determination to assume all the responsibilities with which it was vested to face the situation and restore public order and tranquility as early as possible.

Military Command Alters Curfew

LD0710192288 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1845 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] The Military Command delegated to restore public security announces that as of tonight, the time of curfew within the borders of the province of Algiers and the districts of Cheraga and Rouiba has been altered as follows:

The curfew starts at 2200 and ends at 0500.

The Military Command reminds that the Departments of Civil Protection, Public Health, SONELGAZ [National Society of Electricity and Gas], and sanitation, are allowed to move during the period of curfew within the framework of their professional activities.

Every citizen who has to move during the curfew for an emergency, should carry a license, which can be obtained from the military authority, national gendarmerie, police departments, provinces, districts, and People's Municipal Councils.

Minister Queried on Unrest

LD0710195088 Paris International Service in French 1800 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Excerpts] [Announcer] We do not know how many have died in the riots which have been affecting Algeria but a certain number have died. This was admitted by the Military Command which has held the power as a result of the state of emergency proclaimed yesterday by Chadli Bendjedid. According to this official source, people have died, both on the side of the forces of order and on the side of the demonstrators. [passage omitted]

The authorities feared possible incidents today when people were leaving the mosques after Friday prayers. The mosques were therefore closely watched. Several thousand young fundamentalists have been demonstrating in the Algerian district of Belcourt, and this was not apparently the only demonstration today during the state of emergency. [passage omitted]

Another certainty which is becoming apparent is that the riots have not affected only the capital. The main town in western Algeria, Oran, was the scene of violent demonstrations, shots were heard, and the offices of the French national airline, Air France, appear to have been ransacked. Another example is the small town of Staoueli, 25 km from Algiers, which has been ransacked. I shall call Yves Lers in Algiers right away:

[Lers] [Passage omitted] Demonstrations have also taken place in Blida and its vicinity, in the Mitidja region and in the center of the country. Some demonstrators are reported to be armed, which explains the continuing tension in Algiers, although the demonstrations have lost some of their intensity. [passage omitted]

[Announcer] Hunger riots and youth riots—much has been said about young people in the current outburst of anger. However, if one is to believe the minister of higher education, students have remained outside the movement. At least, this is what Minister Aboubaker Belkaid said when questioned by Hassan Diop:

[Begin recording] [Belkaid] The university community has remained apart from these intrigues. University activities have continued as normal, even if they have been affected to some extent by the consequences of these events. They did not work today because it is the weekly day of rest in our country; university activities will resume as normal tomorrow, as they have done in the past few days.

[Diop] Mr Minister, it is said that the spectre of youth unemployment above all was the root cause of the riots. Don't students have the impression today that at the end of their studies they will be without work?

[Belkaid] You know, Algeria has not had this problem over the last few years, but it is true that for some time, in view of the economic revolution, the consequences of world economic crisis, and the lack of sufficient investment in certain areas we are indeed noting that certain questions are beginning to surface at the level of young students, but it is not yet what one might call a great concern. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Army Fires on Demonstrators

LD0710232088 Paris Domestic Service in French 2300 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] The unrest continues in Algiers. During the evening the forces of order opened fire on young demonstrators in outlying districts. Beforehand the military command had tightened the curfew, which is now in force from 2200 to 0500. It warned the population that the soldiers and police had been given orders to use their weapons.

The troubles also spread to Oran, the second city of the country, where many buildings were ransacked. The army is deployed at all the big crossroads in Oran and is also reported to have opened fire on young rioters.

Workers Urged To Work 8 Oct

LD0710211488 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 2055 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] In the context of the return of life to its natural course in the capital and its suburbs, the civil servants and workers, whatever their category and whatever obstacles of transport they face, must do their utmost to join their posts tomorrow.

'Nightmare' Continues; Army Intervenes Oct 8

Bendjedid Confers With Salih

JN0810134088 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih last night held a telephone conversation with his brother Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to reassure himself about the situation in Algiers.

SABA' has learned that Brother Chadli Bendjedid put President Salih in the picture of all recent developments in the Algerian capital, indicating that it is now quiet after rioting has been put down. The Algerian leadership, he added, now has everything under control after aborting the hostile and conspiratorial objectives of the disturbances that were masterminded by hostile forces.

On his side, brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih stressed that the hostile riots and chaos must have been orchestrated by imperialist and Zionist forces—the adversaries of the Arabs and Muslims—who are unhappy about sisterly Algeria's clear, principled, pan-Arab stands on the Palestinian and other pan-Arab causes. Otherwise, they would not have been blown out of all proportion by anti-Arab media, President Salih declared.

He emphasized the YAR's support for the people of the 1.5 million martyrs in their stand against plots designed to undermine the stability, security, and sovereignty of sisterly Algeria.

Bendjedid Views Developments

LD0810190488 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN Party, received at his office today Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Politburo and official in charge of the Central Committee Permanent Committee.

Mr Messaadia briefed the head of state during the audience on the measures taken at the level of the party's structures and grass-root organizations. Mr Messaadia told Chadli Bendjedid of the militants' determination to continue self-mobilization to defend the nation's interests.

Chadli Bendjedid also received at his office today Abdelhamid Brahimi, alternate member of the Politburo and premier, who briefed him on the implementation of the measures taken within the framework of the government's activities.

Bendjedid Confers With Khediri

LD0910111488 Algiers APS in English 1017 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Algiers, 9/10/88 (APS)—President Chadli Bendjedid audienced on Saturday here al-Hadj Khediri home minister.

Al-Hadj Khediri briefed the head of state on the situation in the provinces of the country. For his part the head of the Permanent Secretariat Mohamed Cherif Messaadia has briefed the head of state on the measures stepped up at the level of the party and the mass organizations. The head of the Permanent Secretariat also pointed out to the president the determination of the militants to carry on their mobilization to defend the interests of the nation.

Besides, the head of state audienced Prime Minister Abdelhamid Ibrahimi who briefed him on the implementation of the measures decided within the framework of program of action of the government.

Interior Minister on Situation

LD0910011588 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0002 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Statement by Interior Minister Al-Hadj Khediri on 8 October on the development of the situation in Algiers and other towns—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Before these painful and regrettable incidents, and in my capacity as interior minister, I saw it as my duty to tell you the whole truth, with the frankness that we have been accustomed to. I will tell you about what has happened in the last few days.

The events began on Tuesday night in Bab-el-Oued, in the capital, with demostrations and agitation that were confronted by the security services, who tried by all peaceful means to restore security to this quarter. In the morning, Wednesday, demonstrations were held in all parts of the capital by youths who had been infiltrated by destructive hands. These, too, were confronted by the security services with peaceful means and reasonableness. They tried to calm people down and restore security to the capital but events developed.

Events developed and resulted in heavy losses. We were surprised, as you were surprised. You have seen the pictures, something regrettable, something that makes one really cry.

In the face of this, we stepped up measures to protect property and lives, but on Friday and Saturday the incidents spread to other towns—Oran, Mostaganem, Tiaret, Annaba - and the results were the same as you had seen in the capital: acts of vandalism, destruction of property, and loss of lives.

Concerning these regrettable results, I wonder and ask everyone of you: Why; why this vandalism; and why this destruction? Is the aim to smash up schools and colleges, laboratories, and public property that we have built with the sweat of our brow, with our sons, and for our sons? Why, why this? Is this the objective? Is this resolving problems?

What is regrettable is that the smashing up of schools, buses, and public property has tarnished the reputation of Algeria, and this is a big loss. You now hear and notice those who seek to harm Algeria, and what is being said about us now. The regrettable result is the tarnishing of Algeria's reputation.

What is more regrettable is that symbols of the revolution have been infringed upon. Before all this, I once again wonder and ask everyone of you to ask before our own conscience and before history: Why this, why all this? All the more as in these circumstances all those who want evil for the country exploit these opportunities and speak and engage in oneupmanship against us.

But, brothers, the Algerian state, with all its powers, is determined to use all means to restore peace and security to the country. I ask everyone, every one of us, to respect himself, to respect his country, to respect Algeria, to respect the law, and to help the authorities; give a helping hand.

I am convinced that the majority of you, the majority of Algerians, the biggest proportion of Algerians, and I am almost saying all Algerians, regret what happened. They are worried. I ask you, and I ask them to give a helping hand by showing discipline and respect for the laws. Every one of us has this responsibility. May peace and blessings of Almighty God be upon you

Streets Resuming 'Usual Activity'

LD0810084588 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0630 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Since the early hours of this morning the streets of the capital are returning to their normal hustle and bustle and are resuming their usual activity. Workers have also expressed their readiness to return to their posts within the context of the progressive return to normal life once order and tranquillity have been restored.

'State of Siege' Continues

LD0810093588 Paris International Service in French 0630 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Excerpts] The situation in Algeria: A state of siege and curfew continues. The curfew has been extended by 2 hours in and around Algiers, though demonstrations seem to have calmed down in the capital. However, the situation worsened yesterday in the second biggest town, Oran, with violent demonstrations. The demonstrators attacked the FLN building, many hotels and shops, and the Air France building was ransacked. The army intervened, deploying troops in the main centers of the town. The demonstrators were youngsters. [passage omitted]

For more details on what is happening this morning, our correspondent Claire Arsenaud-Lers reports from Algiers:

[Arsenaud-Lers] The events that have been shaking Algiers since Tuesday evening are spreading. Oran yesterday witnessed demonstrations and the army has taken positions in the city center. [passage omitted]

In Algiers yesterday, religious elements entered the scene, and the first political slogans appeared. It is not known if this was coincidence or not. The demonstrators have thus carried the first banners on which—written in French—slogans such as: "No to oppression," "No to tyranny," "Claim your rights," and "Yes to social justice." To the west of Algiers, similar demonstrations were witnessed yesterday from Cheraga to Tipasa, 70 kilometers from the capital. [passage omitted]

Group Claims Responsibility

NC0810130188 Paris AFP in English 1236 GMT 8 Oct 88

[By Yves Leers]

[Text] Algiers, Oct 8 [AFP]—Stores reopened Saturday in Algiers after three days of rioting as Oran was reported tense and incidents were reported in inland towns, a variety of sources said.

In Algiers, the capital of this arid North African nation five times the size of France, sanitation workers and postmen were back on the job and government offices opened normally along with stores on what is a working day here.

After a televised appeal for a return to work and a second night of curfew, troops remained deployed at major intersections and strategic buildings.

Medical sources put the death toll here at four, but the government has declined to given an official count, saying only that there had been loss of life.

In Oran, Algeria's second city that is home to 660,000 of Algeria's 23.5 million people, residents said in telephone interviews that traffic had resumed despite occasional firings Saturday of tear gas by the troops, who were backed by tanks.

On Friday, two luxury hotels and the offices of Air Algerie, Air France and the National Liberation Front, the ruling party known as the FLN, were looted. A reliable source said seven people were killed in Oran.

In Blida, south of here banks displayed shattered windows and traces of fire, the city hall's archives were scattered about, parts of the documents in the courts building were destroyed by arson and two party offices were sacked.

The Central Bank's Blida Building was covered with graffiti and another bank had a substantial sum stolen during the attacks, local residents said.

Other incidents were reported in such inland towns as Staoueli, Bou Ismail, Kolea and Boufarik.

A man claiming to speak for the previously-unknown Popular Movement for an Algerian Renewal called AFP on several occasions to say that the movement was responsible for the rioting and called for the immediate resignation of the government and the dissolution of the FLN "because of the current regime's economic and social debacle."

The caller said that his movement had given orders for a return to calm in Algiers and for a stepping-up of demonstrations in the other regions.

In the first Arab reactions to the rioting, the leader of North Yemen, Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, blamed the riots on "Zionist powers and enemies of the Arab nation."

A Cairo newspaper, reflecting the Egyptian medias' unsympathetic coverage, carried a banner headline saying the government had "lost the confidence of the Algerian people."

In Algiers, the government-controlled press expressed dismay at the destruction, and blamed what one paper called the "sinister brains who have subverted this fringe of our youth," without naming them.

Friday, witnesses in Algiers said between 6,000 and 8,000 young Moslem fundamentalists, led by a white-turbaned religious leader and chanting demands for an "Islamic republic," marched through the city's eastern Belcourt neighborhood after Friday prayers.

Many of the rioters made clear their admiration for the young Palestinian stone-throwers in the occupied territories, whose uprising against Israeli administration is given widespread daily coverage in the media here.

"They aren't afraid, so why should I be?" said one young protester.

Gunfire was heard Friday in parts of Algiers, and observers said it was the first time firearms were used to control domestic strife since the 1962 independence war.

The Algerian news agency APS reported that approximately 900 people had been arrested since the riots started.

Witnesses said that a number of the demonstrators were armed with weapons that appeared to have been stolen from police stations in the city.

Following the government's announcement that people had been killed in the rioting, protesters began marching through the streets of the capital shouting "Chadli assassin," a reference to President Chadli Bendjedid, and "We have obeyed since 1962."

Many analysts have blamed the riots on Algeria's sliding standard of living. Unpublished figures provided by international experts indicate that per capita gross national product (GNP) fell from 3,201 dollars in 1986 to 2,689 dollars last year.

Communique on Situation

LD0810173188 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Communique issued by the Military Command in charge of restoring public order to the capital]

[Text] Since yesterday afternoon the capital has witnessed a gradual return of calm, thanks to the work of the security units and the contribution of the citizens of the capital, Algiers. The curfew was respected, thus allowing the authorities to carry out their functions and restore the capital's normal face.

The Military Command in charge of restoring security intends to exert more effort in order to achieve, as soon as possible, a normal functioning of public bodies in all the fields of social-vocational activity. The reduction in the movement of persons remains in effect, and all should respect this.

Security Forces Kill 'Several'

NC0810191288 Paris AFP in English 1907 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Algiers, Oct 8 (AFP)—Security forces opened fire Saturday on a group of people gathered in a suburb near here, killing several people, a reliable source said.

Eyewitnesses said that three people had been killed and one injured when soldiers fired on a group that had gathered in front of a cafe in the suburb following afternoon prayers.

There were no immediate explanations for why the troops fired.

Further on 8 Oct Violence

NC0810194888 Paris AFP in English 1943 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Algiers, Oct 8 (AFP)—Security forces opened fire Saturday on a group of people in a suburb near here, killing three of them, eyewitnesses said.

The eyewitnesses said soldiers fired on a group gathered in front of a cafe in the southern suburb of Kouba before afternoon prayers. One person was wounded, they added.

The witnesses said that the group was not demonstrating and they could not tell why the troops fired.

Witnesses in Algiers said that well-organized groups of young people operating from the roofs of buildings in the Mohamed V and Belcourt quarters of the capital threw stones and other objects at people and vehicles in the streets.

The youths shattered windows in a bank, the witnesses said.

Earlier it was reported that troops remained deployed at major intersections and strategic buildings in Algiers, as several cities began a third night under a 10 p.m.-to-5 a.m. curfew.

In Oran, Algeria's second-largest city, residents said in telephone interviews that traffic had resumed despite occasional firings of tear gas by the troops, who were backed by tanks.

In Blida, south of here, banks displayed shattered windows and traces of fire, the city hall's archives were scattered about and parts of the documents in the courts building were destroyed by arson.

Other minor incidents were reported in the inland towns of Staoueli, Bou-Ismail, Kolea and Boufarik.

Calm Restored in Algiers

LD0810195188 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Due to the continuous work of the security forces and the contribution of the citizens, the situation has started to take its normal course and the capital has been witnessing a gradual return of calm since yesterday afternoon.

The Military Command in charge of the restoration of security intends to strengthen this effort to achieve in a very short time the normal functioning of the different public services in all fields of cultural, social, and professional activity.

The resumption of activity has been more evident since this morning as cafes, shops, administrations, and ministries opened their doors in a climate of calm and quiet. Despite the vandalism against a number of buses, the Algiers transport company resumed activity, and despite the difficulties experienced by the transport sector, workers arrived at this places of work and worked in calm and quiet.

The scenes of children playing football, and drivers seeking places to park, buses on the streets, and the crowded cafes reflect the situation in Algiers today, Saturday. It is thus a normal situation except for a number of papers strewn here and there, and the hulks of burned-out cars.

A father said that this was a nightmare that should be forgotten quickly, and we must denounce chaos and sabotage by redoubling our efforts, with everyone at his place of work. This is, in fact, the general feeling of the population in the capital. We have a torrent of telephone calls from citizens who unanimously denounced what happened, and many of whom affirmed that the children who were in the streets did not have any idea about what was going on.

We add to this the fact that during the height of the disturbances, during the past 2 days, citizens rushed to organize themselves to protect public institutions, and many of them confronted the violent saboteurs.

Other citizens stress that they fully understand the difficulties faced by the Algerian economy, which is affected by the international economic crisis and the deterioration of the oil prices, and consider these difficulties to be a temporary crisis which does not call for sabotage. On the contrary, it calls for the solidarity of efforts. They express their opinion that the reform measures should be given every opportunity for implementation and success because they are sufficient to improve the standard of living of the workers. They say that they would rather have nothing more than dry bread than see such destruction and sabotage.

The Military Command, which is dedicated to protecting the security of public property and of the citizens reminds the citizens that all the restrictions on the free movement of the individuals remain valid, and everyone should adhere to these restrictions.

To preserve the authority of law, a statement by the Ministry of Justice says that those causing disturbances and sabotage against public property, who committed actions against the citizens and the national heritage, will be referred to the courts in a special session.

We remind the population once more that the Military Command informs the population of the capital that any gathering, in whatever form, is not allowed in public streets during the state of siege. It reminds the population that orders have been issued to the units of intervention to use weapons against anybody who does not obey quickly instructions to disperse calmly.

Troops Open Fire on Protesters

NC0810224988 Paris AFP in English 2243 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Algiers, Oct 8 (AFP)—Troops opened fire on protesters in the centre of Algiers late on Saturday, and it was feared that there were many casualties.

Heavy firing was heard during a protest, thought to be by Islamic activists, after the start of the night curfew.

Some witnesses spoke of bloody bodies lying in streets and stairways, and of demonstrators chanting "Allah Akhbar" (God is great).

Unrest Spreads to Annaba

LD0810233488 Paris Domestic Service in French 2300 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Resumption of violence in Algeria: The Army has opened fire on demonstrators in several districts of Algiers, particularly the Rouissou District [French name for El-Anacer district] According to witnesses there are dead and injured.

Clashes have also resumed during the evening in Oran, and the interior minister has said that disturbances have also broken out in several other towns, particularly Annaba, an important port in eastern Algeria.

Higher Education Unaffected

LD0810102688 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] The Education and Training Ministry informs pupils and their parents that school in Algiers will remain closed until further notice. Parents are called on to take care of their sons so that they will not fall victim to incitement and tricks.

Concerning higher education, it is worth informing that the activity of higher education institutions in the capital will not be interrupted. This activity continues in a normal way.

Airline Flights Resumed

LD0810121888 Algiers APS in English 1110 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Paris, 10/88 (APS)—The Algerian company "Air-Algerie" which interrupted its flights on Thursday and Friday resumed yesterday its programme of air-transport.

Trade Union Appeals to Workers

LD0810202488 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] The National Secretariat of the General Union of Algerian Workers [UGTA] has made an appeal to the workers following an emergency meeting held today, midday. The following is the text:

Workers, men and women: Those who are lying in wait, whether from within or from outside, for our revolution, those who are well known for their rancor against anything which the people have built since our independence, have tried to exploit a number of our youth and children to further their aims of destabilizing the country and harming its fundamental choices as well as workers' gains.

Such a conspiracy will not succeed, because the Algerian workers will never allow any harm to touch the gains of our socialist revolution as well as the country's political and economic independence. The workers have proved once more their commitment to defending the people's property and to safeguarding it with their admirable nationalist actions, as well as to thwarting any act aimed at harming it.

Workers, men and women, the Political Bureau held an emergency meeting under the chairmanship of President Chadli Bendjedid last Wednesday and issued a statement which was welcomed by the workers. This statement has clearly, tangibly, and responsibly responded to the workers' legitimate aspirations. And this statement, furthermore, very clearly reaffirmed the political leadership's firm commitment to guaranteeing the continuation of the development process through firm and rigorous battle to efficiently defend workers' purchasing power and to conduct with firmness and as best as possible the battle, which is already underway, against speculation, bribery, inflation, and the free play with the channels of importation and distribution.

Workers, men and women, your response to this appeal as well as the reaffirmation of your support and total trust in the political leadership, led by Brother Chadli Bendjedid, and your attachment to the content of his speech of 19 September can affirmatively be expressed by vigorously defending your means of production—the main guarantor of your children's future—as well as public property in general.

More Than 200 Dead; Unrest Continues 9 Oct

'At Least' 100 Dead in Riots

NC0910072988 Paris AFP in English 0725 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Algiers Oct 9 (AFP)—At least 100 people have died in the wave of riots that has rocked Algeria, reliable medical sources and eyewitnesses said here early Sunday.

This nationwide death toll was established before the 2100 GMT curfew came into force Saturday.

The highest number of victims were recorded in the Algerian capital, where at least 55 people died, the sources said.

The heaviest casualties so far have been been in the eastern Algiers sector of La Baucheraye, where the sources said some 30 people had been killed.

Hospital officials said that 17 people had been killed in the northwestern coastal city of Oran by Saturday afternoon, while some 40 people had died in other parts of the country.

'More Than' 170 Dead

NC0910082188 Paris AFP in English 0819 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Algiers, Oct 9 (AFP)—More than 170 people have been killed and several hundred wounded in four days of rioting across Algeria, according to the latest toll given by medical sources and eyewitnesses early Sunday.

Of the total, an estimated 115 deaths were in the capital and its suburbs.

About 60 deaths were reported in other parts of the country: 17 in Oran, the second largest city, 10 in Mostaganem and about 10 more in the eastern city of Annaba.

Hospital sources early Sunday said 60 deaths occurred late Saturday and overnight in Kouba, a district east of Algiers.

Reports said the Kouba riots were triggered by the deaths of three boys shot dead Saturday afternoon by soldiers in the Ben Omar neighborhood of Algiers. Witnesses said the soldiers had opened fire after one of the boys shouted insults at them.

That incident happened just before the funeral of another person killed in the rioting.

An earlier toll put the number of deaths at 112 with most casualties in the eastern part of Algiers. That toll was given before the 2100 GMT curfew came into force.

Witnesses said that in many areas of Algiers the Army fired on the crowd with machine-guns mounted on tanks and armored vehicles. They added that the overnight shooting lasted for two hours.

Some witnesses said they heard demonstrators out in the streets after the curfew came into force Saturday evening shouting "Allah Akbar" (God is great), adding that the protest was apparently led by Moslem fundamentalists.

A large number of people with bullet wounds were admitted to hospital. Doctors at the Mustapha Hospital and Pasteur Clinic in central Algiers and in the eastern districts of Hussein-Day and Belfort said emergency services were finding it hard to cope.

There has been no official or even semi-official toll for the security forces although the authorities have acknowledged some deaths among police, gendarmes and troops trying to contain the riots.

Military and police casualties have been admitted to the new Ain-Naadja Military Hospital were national service men have been replaced by Army regulars.

Among civilian casualties, many are said to have refused to seek hospital treatment for fear of police reprisals.

Hospital sources said the most common wounds were caused by automatic pistols and rifles. But some bullet wounds were of a size which suggested that high-powered ammunition was also being used. A number of demonstrators also had bayonet wounds, some in the face, medical sources said.

Security forces, made up largely of young national service recruits, have been ordered to shoot to kill after going through normal warning procedures.

On Saturday, the Military Command administering the state of emergency imposed Thursday by President Chadli Bendjedid, warned that order would be restored at all costs.

Most of the clashes on the past two nights have occurred just after the 10 p.m. curfew.

More Shooting During Curfew

LD0910083788 Paris Domestic Service in French 0800 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Excerpt] The toll of the riots which broke out 5 days ago in Algeria is rising by the hour. There is now talk of at least 100 dead throughout the country. The number is based on witness reports and medical sources because officially nothing is filtering out. In any case, these figures may be merely provisional ones, Pierre Weil reports:

[Weil] The toll may yet become higher after confrontations which took place in various spots in Algiers last night shortly after the beginning of the curfew. Demonstrators gathered in the main street Didouche Mourad. They chanted fundamentalist slogans and shouted: Chadli, assassin. The Army fired and shooting lasted for over 2 hours. Witnesses say many bodies covered in blood were lying in the streets. The Army also opened fire on demonstrators in several Algiers surburbs.

One soldier killed three people near a mosque during the funeral for a young demonstrator. Doctors treating the injured say that many are injured not only by bullets but also by bayonets. There were also clashes in Oran yesterday afternoon when groups of youngsters threw stones at the soldiers. The soldiers answered with tear gas. [passage omitted]

French Passenger Interviewed

LD0910131288 Paris Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Excerpt] There are more than 200 people dead throughout the country. Last night was particularly deadly in Algeria. In Algiers itself, the Army fired on crowds in many districts of the capital. I suggest you listen to the reaction of a young French passenger who arrived at Orly airport this morning. Corinne Thebault from France Info interviews him:

[Unidentified passenger] There are tanks in the streets. Where I was there were 15 tanks, there is a tank at every corner. One can walk till 1600, after the 1600 prayers that is it. There is machinegun fire.

[Thebault] Are the young people armed?

[Passenger] No, no, only Molotov cocktails, that is all. [Words indistinct] in an apartment on the sixth floor and on the seventh floor there were people who were hurling Molotov cocktails. Shots were fired at the apartment and I was very frightened. It is a state of siege all right.

[Thebault] Did you see people dying in the street?

[Passenger] Not dying but being shot down, being shot down with rubber bullets except when the Army fires real bullets—with machine guns. It is truly a case of helmets, grenades, and rifles fitted with bayonets. They chase after the people. It is like Beirut all right—smoke everywhere. One might say it is Beirut.

[Thebault] What were you advised to do?

[Passenger] The people with whom I was staying advised me to leave because they told me things would turn out very badly, that this business will end very badly.

[Announcer] A very telling report. To this one must add that air traffic between France and Algeria is disrupted. Many flights have been canceled while the riots are spreading to other Algerian localities. [passage omitted]

Life Returning to 'Normal'

LD0910092888 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Algiers today restored its vitality and cheerfulness by departments resuming their activities and life resuming its continuous movement through workers reporting to their posts and shops opening in complete safety and security.

Cleaning authorities continue their efforts to repair the damage inflicted on the services and to eradicate the damage inflicted on the public services and on private and public property.

These actions are taking place under the commitment of the Military Command to restore the situation to normal as soon as possible.

Shops, Public Offices Open

LD0910133788 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Life is returning to normal in Algiers and its suburbs after the regrettable events of the past few days which aimed at destroying public and private property, including commercial establishments, public telephones, and public transportation stations. Condemning these acts of sabotage, the citizens have returned to their places of work and resumed their usual activities.

The capital has recovered its usual aspects: In various streets of the capital through which we wandered we noticed that all public administrative departments and amenities and commercial establishments had opened their doors. With much bitterness citizens expressed their regret at the destruction of the public establishments which are the gains of the Algerian people. They also expressed their satisfaction with the return of normal life and their intention to do their utmost to rebuild what has been destroyed as quickly as possible. [passage omitted]

'Violence' in Kabylie Region

LD0910151688 Paris Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Excerpts] In Algeria the riots are spreading. For the first time the radio at 1400 spoke about an upsurge of violence in the mountainous Kabylie region east of Algiers. A very large number of young people battled against the tanks, according to the official radio, which gave no figures. The Kabylie region has a population of 2 million Berbers who have their own demands, in particular they want their non-Arabic language to be used in schools and in official documents. Furthermore in Algiers Muslim fundamentalists called on the inhabitants of Algiers to assemble before the mosques today after prayers to express their feelings toward the government.

There was a demonstration in Paris this morning. About 1,000 people, according to the organizers, and about 300, according to the police, marched in the Barbes area to protest against the Algerian regime which they described as a dictatorship. [passage omitted]

Still on the subject of the riots in Algiers, Hubert Vedrine, Elysee Spokesman, who was the guest of the FR 3-RMC Forum [programme organized jointly by FR-3 Television and Radio Monte Carlo] expressed the view that it is not for France to interfere in domestic Algerian problems, and thus it can only hope for a stable and prosperous Maghreb for the development of this region with French and European cooperation, end of quotation.

170 Killed in Demonstrations

LD0910165988 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Excerpts] At least 170 people have been killed throughout Algeria; this is the latest estimate of the number of victims of the violent demonstrations hitting the country since the beginning of the week. All of casualties were demonstrators. Many demonstrators were injured. It is in Algiers and the vicinity that there have been the greatest number of dead, at least 115; 60 of them from the eastern district of Kouba alone. [passage omitted]

Now to Claire Harcenaulerse for RFI in Algiers for a review of the situation:

[Harcenaulerse] After a night of violence, Algiers is counting its dead this morning. In the district of Kouba, east of the capital, last night's very violent clashes are reported to have left 60 dead. Early this afternoon, a crowd gathered outside the Mustapha hospital demanding the bodies of the victims. Elsewhere in Algiers there are already 50 dead, 27 casualties in the district of Badjarah alone.

The rest of Algeria has also been badly affected, with some 60 dead. Oran, which was calm again this morning, has 17 dead. On the other hand at Annaba, where there are already 10 dead, the unrest is resurging again at this moment. There is considerable damage in Ouargla and Djelfa, as well as throughout the Kabylie region. It appears that now, as far as Algiers is concerned, it is the fundamentalists who are organizing and channelling the movement.

Furthermore, the MPRA, the People's Movement for Algerian Renewal—unknown until yesterday—is continuing to issue comuniques in which it says it is prepared, I quote, to take measures to return its dignity to the Algerian people. Also, a call from the fundamentalists is reported to have been made for a demonstration this afternoon after prayers. The tension remains very high in Algiers where one has the impression that anything can happen.

Movement Issues Ultimatum

NC0910201588 Paris AFP in English 2008 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Algiers, Oct 9 (AFP)—A shadowy "Movement for Algerian Renewal" announced Sunday that it had given the government of President Chadli Bendjedid a 24-hour ultimatum to "end the massacres of our Algerian brothers".

In a communique signed by its "collegiate committee", the movement said that after expiry of this deadline "It will be the whole of the people who throw out the dictatorship".

It also said that the casualty toll in the riots which erupted in Algeria in the middle of last week was 256 dead and 600 wounded.

An anonymous spokesman for the Movement for Algerian Renewal reiterated its demands of the last few days.

These are: resignation of the Chadli government, dissolution of the National Liberation Front (FLN) party and the national assembly, election of local people's committees, revision of the constitution and lifting of martial law.

24-Hour Ultimatum Issued

LD0910213288 Paris Domestic Service in French 2100 GMT 09 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Algeria: Silence on the part of the authorities, still no official toll for the riots which have spread to many towns in the country over the last 5 days, but an unofficial toll gives a figure of more than 200 dead. We shall perhaps know more tomorrow evening with the radio and television address by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. One thing is certain, the unrest has spread, particularly to the Kabilie region.

This evening the fundamentalists are making a reappearance and have issued a 24 hour ultimatum to the government. They are threatening to drive it out using the people as an agent. [passage omitted]

Special Courts To Try Rioters

LD0910111388 Algiers APS in English 1015 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Algiers, 9/10/88 (APS)—The Ministry of Justice released the following communique: In order to make law prevail "law trouble-makers having perpetrated destructions of public and private properties, and striking a blow to the physical integrity of citizens and the very symbol of the national patrimony will be judged by courts ruling on special audience".

National Products Fair Postponed

LD0910104088 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] The National Office of Fairs informs exhibitors and the public that the national products fair, which was to take place from 10 to 22 October, has been postponed to a later date.

Deaths Reported; President Bendjedid Speaks

Life Returns to Normal

LD1010090888 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Life in Algiers and its suburbs was restored to normality through the establishment of security and restoring confidence. Workers in large numbers went to work today, and the public services and departments were working normally in an atmosphere of calmness after the restoration of normality, thanks to continuous vigilance to preserve public security and thanks to respect for law by everyone and for the benefit of everyone.

20,000 March Through Algiers

NC101015188 Paris AFP in English 1457 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Algiers, Oct 10 (AFP)—At least 20,000 people have begun a march through the centre of the Algerian capital, which has been under a curfew and a state of siege since protests over living standards flared up last week, eyewitnesses said Monday.

One demonstrator was wounded by gunfire early in the event, and others were facing down police and paratroop army units with tanks outside the Treasury building as shots were heard in the Casbah quarter around 3.30 p.m. (1430 GMT).

Sometimes chanting and shaking their fists at watchers on balconies, the demonstrators came from Belcourt in the east and headed for Martyrs Square and the entrance to the Bab el Oued district on the seafront. The march turned largely silent after troops fired warning shots in the air.

For the first time since riots rocked the Algerian capital last week, a limited number of women were seen in the march. Most of the demonstrators were Moslem fundamentalists, who three days earlier had organized a peaceful gathering of some 8,000 people in Belcourt.

President Chadli Bendjedid, who imposed a military command on the capital last Thursday, was due to broadcast to the country in the evening, in his first public declaration six days after violence flared across Algeria.

Gangs of youths on Wednesday sacked shops and offices and set many buses and cars alight. They were protesting about low wages, high prices and food shortages.

Troops remained stationed at main road junctions here and in some working class districts Monday. Some traders remained closed, afraid of more violence, but shop fronts had been quickly patched up with corrugated iron, and burned vehicles and other debris had been cleared away.

Islamic fundamentalists earlier said they would hold a peaceful demonstration in the Belcourt district, where three days ago they drew some 8,000 people to a gathering which passed off without incident. They had initially planned a second rally on Sunday, but cancelled it.

Algeria's second city of Oran appeared to be back to normal, with TV broadcasts showing the townspeople going about their business. But the local papers for the first time reported troubles in other towns in the provinces.

EL MOUDJAHID said there were disturbances at Tiaret, Mostaganem, Chlef and Ain-defla in the west, Bou Saada to the south, the central town of Blida, and at Annaba in the east.

Other sources reported unrest at Guelma, an eastern town, and in the western towns of Tlemcen, Temouchent and Relizane. [passage omitted]

Demonstrators Gather in Algiers

LD1010152888 Paris Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] A large demonstration is now taking place in the center of Algiers. Nearly 20,000 people—fundamentalists, young people, adults, and also women for the first time—are all marching, but without any particular slogan. The procession is heading toward the seafront. Army troops fired shots into the air to disperse the demonstrators, but the procession reassembled again almost immediately.

This mass demonstration comes only a few hours before President Chadli Bendjedid addresses the Algerian nation.

I have just learned that, according to witnesses, shooting is reported to have broken out. Police and soldiers opened fire to disperse the demonstrators, who are heading toward the Place du Premier Mai, one of the hotspots in the recent clashes in the center of the capital.

10 Killed in Demonstration

NC1010154988 Paris AFP in English 1548 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Algiers, Oct 10 (AFP)—At least 10 people were shot dead and scores were injured in the Algerian capital Monday when security forces opened fire on Islamic fundamentalist demonstrators, eyewitnesses said.

The killings came when the demonstrators numbering at least 20,000 were blocked by riot police outside the Treasury building in the Bab-el-Oued district, the witnesses said.

The security forces opened fire on the demonstrators after a two minute warning period to disperse, they added.

At least 10 people were shot dead and many others were wounded, the witnesses said. The wounded were taken into nearby mosques as ambulances rushed others to hospitals.

The demonstrators fled into the nearby alleyways.

25 Killed in Demonstration

NC1010173388 Paris AFP in English 1710 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Algiers, Oct 10 (AFP)—Security forces shot dead at least 25 people and wounded scores of others here Monday when they opened fire on a demonstration by thousands of Moslem fundamentalists, witnesses said.

The firing came as more than 20,000 demonstrators were blocked by riot police close to the National Security headquarters in the Bab-el-Oued area of the Algerian capital, which has been under military command and a nightly curfew since Thursday.

The security forces had given the crowd a two-minute warning to disperse, witnesses said. But a number of Moslem fundamentalists stood their ground as others panicked and fled, and the security forces fired on them with machine-guns. Between 25 and 30 people died.

Witnesses added that some wounded people were taken into nearby mosques as three ambulances and an officially requisitioned lorry rushed others to hospitals. Firemen later hosed down the street in front of the building. [passage omitted]

Participants said Monday's demonstration, announced previously by Moslem fundamentalists in defiance of state of siege regulations, was taking place to commemorate those killed in almost a week of riots and to protest against the authorities' refusal to hand victims' bodies over to their families. [passage omitted]

Minister: Bendjedid in Control

LD1010190888 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Everyone is waiting to see what President Bendjedid will say tonight at 1900 GMT in a speech broadcast by radio and television. This morning our colleagues at Europe-1 [radio station] asked Algerian Minister for Youth Abdelkadar Bererhi if the president was going to be in a position to bring about a political outcome to this conflict. Here are his replies to Jean-Pierre Elkabache:

[Begin recording] [Bererhi] The president will certainly move in the direction of a reconstruction [as heard] using political channels rather than strongarm tactics. This is certain, but neither can one abandon our public buildings and the achievements of the revolution to looting and destruction.

[Elkabache] What are the political solutions?

[Bererhi] A political solution is certainly first of all the taking in hand of all social problems, the taking in hand of all the problems posed by young people, and at the same time, certainly, I cannot predict beforehand what a head of state is going to decide, but certainly since the congress has been announced, it would be a matter of achieving a profound restructuring of our system in order to make it much more efficient and more productive.

[Elkabache] Does your government, does your president, still really have control over the power in Algeria?

[Bererhi] Absolutely, absolutely. We absolutely have things under control, the president has them under control and we are convinced furthermore that this taking in hand of the problems will demonstrated this very evening on television.

[Elkabache] At what time and in what way will you give orders to the army to stop firing and for them to withdraw from the streets?

[Bererhi] The army will be withdrawn as soon as calm has been reestablished. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Bendjedid Addresses Nation

LD1010200388 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Address to the nation by Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and FLN secretary general, on 10 October—live or recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Citizens:

I am addressing you today as the homeland is going through serious difficulties resulting from rioting and sabotage of the state's economic, educational and social institutions, as well as institutions which symbolize the state. We ask the question, in whose interests were such acts? Is this the way to solve our problems? Is this the way to put our affairs in order?

I say no. And I believe that all sincere citizens share my opinion. Therefore, the Algerian leadership, in accordance with the Constitution—I personally—have taken the necessary measures in order to safeguard the Homeland, the revolution and the nation.

It was a difficult choice indeed. But there was not, however, any other solution. There were two choices: Leave the situation as it was, a matter which would have led the homeland to anarchy and thereby a civil war inside the homeland. Then in whose interest is all this? In the interest of our enemies to enable them to denigrate us and achieve their ambitions.

The second option—which I said was a difficult one—was, however, that by virtue of my responsibility and my moral and political commitment and in accordance with the constitution, I gave instructions to the armed forces and to the security services [as heard] to protect the state institutions and its economy and to protect innocent citizens who, in their overwhelming majority, reject this subversive action.

We bitterly deplore the material and human losses but my duty as the first person in charge of this nation compelled us to take the necessary measures to protect this state and this nation, whatever the circumstances

and the difficulties, and within the framework of the constitution and the powers vested in me as the first person in charge of this country.

The problems have to be presented. Indeed, I have always talked about dialogue, direct dialogue, to solve our problems peacefully and calmly. On several occasions I said that the fundamental issues concerning the Algerian people must be presented to the people and it is they who decide on the matter democratically. In my last speech, on 19 September, I talked about our situation responsibly and objectively.

I used self-criticism of the Algerian Government and its shortcomings, which are in fact numerous. This is not a new thing. I talked about these things before these destructive acts took place. I said that there are reform measures which have been put into practice, and there are measures to confront the situation that are related to the needs of the citizen, particularly the low-income citizen. I have also tacked other reforms, without having to mention their kind or shape.

Our situation today, stemming from self-criticism—and as I have said I talked about all the shortcoming ...[incomplete sentence as heard]. However, let us talk together and ascertain together the causes of these shortcomings. Brother citizens, recall that at the beginning of the eighties we experienced crises and natural disasters. We confronted the situation with the necessary determination and we took all the necessary measures, thank God. Also brother citizen, do not forget that we experienced drought years, which affected revenue and particularly national agricultural production.

We should not also forget the huge demographic growth, the economic crisis, and the slump in the value of the main revenues, 95 percent of which come from the price of oil. Also, the heavy burden of indebtedness.

This is not an excuse to shrug off responsibility. I have only pointed to some examples of the main issues and problems which are the cause of all this. However, we are determined to face up to this situation and control it, God willing, thanks to the assistance of all and the mobilization of all, and the submission of our problems within the oraganizational frameworks—or framework—to allow every Algerian citizen to voice his opinion and propose objective and reasonable solutions which stem from of our real capacities.

There are measures taken at the level of the government to face up to the situation of prices and consumer goods. The program is being implemented, and, God willing, we will shortly move toward the treatment of all these shortcomings, such as food products, and the price increases in food products [as heard] etc.

Furthermore, measures have been taken which stem from our feelings and consciousness that we must take the necessary measures to benefit low income sections of society, together with measures to benefit our youth in all spheres.

Therefore, in my speech, on 19 September, I mentioned reforms and I said that reforms were being carried out, implemented, and that there were other measures being studied. The necessary measures have to be taken to put our house in order, proceeding from the new facts. I am convinced that the time has come when we need to introduce reforms even in the political field. And I mean the political field.

Therefore, we must review some regulations and constitutional foundations so that they can be harmonized with the new stage, because we cannot undertake vertical reforms [inspired from above, from authority] at the level of various sectors—economic, agricultural, educational, training-related and administrative—without undertaking political reforms.

I said on several occasions that we had enough courage to acknowledge our shortcomings and when we are convinced of the necessity and when the interest of the homeland and the nation requires it, we also have enough courage to take measures for reform even in the political field. A program is being prepared in this respect and it will be submitted to the citizens so that they express themselves on it, because I believe in legitimacy, I believe in the law of the state. I have done what my powers allow me to do, but there is something which is naturally within my powers but which is also within your powers, you the citizens, and on which you have to express yourselves—namely with regard to the political reforms which will be presented soon, God willing.

However, these reforms must take place calmly and realistically, so that we overcome the ordeals and the difficulties we have gone through, both the political and the economic ones. But tackling the problems in this manner is unacceptable and rejected by the loyal citizens.

I said that political reforms will accompany the reforms we have introduced.

A program will be submitted to citizens in order to put forward their opinion. And I promise our people that I will respect the wish of the Algerian nation as far as the economic reforms in the wider sense of the term are concerned. And I am personally convinced that with these reforms, which are going to proposed, we will solve a number of economic and political problems as well as open the door to the national and true cadres to contribute and shoulder responsibility without exception. We will also eliminate and eradicate the monopoly of power

at all levels and allow the institutions, the state's official institutions—whether they be the parliament or other bodies—to play their role as far as the control and the follow up are concerned.

These are the measures which we are hoping to put forward in the coming few weeks; but it will never, however, be possible for us to do such things in an atmosphere where chaos and sabotage prevail—a matter which would, furthermore, lead the country into an abyss, a matter which is against the interests of the homeland, the revolution.

Therefore, there is a program which will be put to the Algerian people to discuss. This program is related to the political reform in all its aspects. In the speech on 19 September that I delivered to the cadres, I did not want to talk about this issue, because I thought the time unsuitable. We should choose the appropriate time to submit this program to the Algerian people. In addition, this program includes other measures which are aimed at the persons who have commited acts of vandalism, who did not behave responsibly, irrespective of their levels—there were measures in this connection as well.

I am talking about this not because of the current situation or the present pressures. This program is not provided because of this. I do not believe in improvised reforms. This is a complete and comprehensive program which includes economic, educational, and political reforms. This program is fully drafted and ready. It will be implemented gradually because one cannot reform one part in a reform or series of reforms and neglect other parts, because in this case there would be an imbalance and contradiction in our constitution and our laws.

Therefore, I took this opportunity to address the citizen, you the citizen, to tell you: Does it please you to see what is happening, or what has happened in the capital, Algiers, or in a few other areas? Is this the national action? Is this the national zeal? Is this love for one's country? Is this the reward for our martyrs? These acts which destroy secondary schools, social and health and economic centers, do they represent the solution?

I assert and answer in your place: this is not the solution; the solution lies in solving our problems calmly and dealing objectively with these problems. And I am convinced that using such a method we can solve our problems and tackle all our political and economic difficulties with these reforms, particularly through the political reforms.

Therefore, citizens, I made a pledge in front of you, when you put your trust in me to shoulder this responsibility to be president—all of you knew that when in 1979 I was not interested in to shouldering the responsibility to be president, it was not because I wanted to avoid the battlefront, it was rather because I knew and I was aware of all the nation's problems, as well as its social, economic and political problems.

However, duty compelled me, as a militant and a Mujahid, to shoulder this responsibility in the interests of the Homeland—no more or less. I do not covet seats of power, nor do I covet material things and ceremonies. My only concern is this Homeland's glory and this nation's good. I have made a pledge before God, the Homeland and the people and I will always be faithful to this Homeland and this nation. And I will never change. Maybe some elements will try to exploit this address as they have already exploited my address of 19 September and distorted its content, and I am afraid that today also they will say that this was a prelude for an election campaign to get a third term in power.

I am telling you brother citizens that I believe in constitutional legitimacy, I believe in Algerian law. We will apply the constitution and its full provisions to myself, to safeguard the Constitution, constitutional legitimacy and the law in order to create traditions for this nation, and to solve our problems as a civilized nation.

I appeal to citizens everywhere, during this difficult period. I need your help, your support. I do not need them for me personally, but through me I need them for your country, your revolution, your people and your gains. Who would be the loser when these acquisitions are destroyed? You the citizen, the whole people. Protect your unity which we achieved through bloodshed, because if you have no unity your destiny will be in doubt in the future. We address our youth, saying that some filthy elements have started to destroy your future.

Therefore, say no to this destruction. Let the stand of the nation be united against this destructive act which serves the interests of others and serves the interests of enemies, who are in reality manipulated by the nation's enemies.

To conclude, I greet you; I have great hopes for our nation, which will confront these difficulties with resolve, courage and responsibility. Calm the situation so that we can complete the state's program within the framework of the aforementioned reforms.

God is a witness to what I have said. Peace be upon you.

Marches Support Bendjedid

LD1010224388 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Excerpts] The first reactions have come to President Chadli Bendjedid's message on television and radio. There have been demonstrations of support in Oran from balconies in the town center and several spontaneously organized marches in the streets. [passage omitted] And news has just come in also of demonstrations of support similar to those of Oran this time in Sidi-Bel-Abbes and Mostaganem.

'Bitter' Reaction to Address

LD1110084888 Paris Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Too vague, too late—this is the bitter reaction of the man in the street in Algiers after the speech by President Chadli broadcast by radio and television yesterday evening. In particular the head of state justified the repression when only a few hours earlier tank drivers and paratroopers has fired machineguns causing several dozen casualties among the demonstrators crossing the city. [passage omitted]

Chadli's speech promises nothing other than hypothetical so-called reforms, said former Algerian president Ben Bella, who is in exile, adding that a rift has now been created between an entire people and a bunch of colonels and military men.

Chadli was too vague; he spoke too late—this was also the reaction of Saada Naamani, president of the New Generation Association, an opposition movement which has its headquarters in Marseille, when he spoke to Olivier Martoc:

[Begin Naaman recording] We do not expect measures, talk about them on 19 September 1988 [as heard]. These are measures that should have been taken from the start, in other words from 1979. He spoke a great deal about the fall in the fuel prices and about drought. I tell you for one thing that with regard to the fuel provision should have been made beforehand, and the same for the drought too, with the money amassed during the oil boom. This should have been thought about. He speaks a great deal about material damage and very little about human damage. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Islamic Council Issues 'Appeal'

LD1010213688 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Excerpts] The Higher Islamic Council issued an appeal this evening. Here is the text:

Proud Algerian Muslim people. Not long ago you won the admiration of the whole world. Be careful today not to arouse the world's repugnance. You have defied all factors of injustice, corruption, and aggression; resisted and built your state with blood and sacrifice; and gave it life with the great work you carried out and with abundant blood and plentiful funds. Be careful not to arouse the world's repugnance today by being led into trouble making and sabotage, and be careful not to be led astray. O people: You have realized the building of your might with blood, sacrifice, and pains; you were patient for decades.

Algerian Muslim people, you are called on to protect your homeland, wealth, and unity. God almighty says: And hold fast all together by the rope God stretches out to you, and be not divided. God almighty also says: And fall into no disputes lest you lose heart and your power departs. Be patient and persevering, for God is with those who patiently persevere.

God ordered us to unite and told us to be patient in good times as well as bad. God forbade the disunity of Muslims and forbade them to create disputes among themselves because disunity and disputes cause weakness and failure. Power and might are given to us by God. If you are invited to do something that God forbids then you should realize you are being duped. Realize that he who invites you to do this is deceitful. Beware of him.

The appeal of the Higher Islamic Council adds that Muslims should obey and unite with their fellow Muslims. This was stressed by the Koran and the saying of the prophet. [passage omitted]

By what right did some trouble makers allow themselves to sabotage others' property? By what right did they allow themselves to shed the blood of others? O Muslims, ask yourselves: Who is the trouble maker; and ask the others: Do you accept what you are doing even though you are Muslims?

The appeal of the Higher Islamic Council adds: O Muslims, fear God for the sake of your homeland and your state. Wise men have other means than you to realize their objectives. If a person burns down his house he will be considered a mad man; other people will stop him burning down his house so that their houses will not catch fire. What the trouble makers have done is a corruption of religion; it is a corruption in this world; it is destruction.

God says that He does not like corrupt people. Do not be corrupt. Do not listen to them. Do not accept what they are doing. Be patient. You are a Muslim—a soldier of Islam and not for others. Islam is the religion of building, not the religion of destruction.

Embassy 'Source' Describes Disturbances

JN1010083988 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 10 Oct 88 pp 1, 20

[By Yusuf al-'Absi]

[Text] A responsible source at the Algerian Embassy in Amman has described the disturbances in Algeria as a "tempest in a teacup." The source accused "foreign quarters and domestic groups which have known links" and elements demanding "foreign culture" of fomenting these incidents.

The source explained to AL-RA'Y that the disturbances are aimed to undermine Algeria's growing militant, political, and pan-Arab role, as well as Algeria's Arab policy and efforts to unify the Arab nation in the Amman summit, through the hosting of the uprising summit, and its announcement of its desire to host the next PNC session.

The source said that "Algeria is also targeted due to its vanguard role in the Arab Maghreb, especially after its success in holding a historic summit among the area leaders, and moving the area toward economic integration and political understanding."

The source indicated that the riots and disturbances were first triggered by social groups which were fighting against and obstructing "Algeria's nationalist policies" aimed at entrenching Arab culture in the Algerian society. These groups are demanding a foreign culture which is alien from Algeria's cultural heritage and history. The source said that it is not strange then to see that the first demonstration was staged from a foreign school which was closed by the Algerian Government recently because it used to spread alien cultures.

The source explained that Israeli and some western mass media have exaggerated the role of the economic factor as a reason behind disturbances. The source said "Algeria moved toward promoting its economy through encouraging individual initiatives. Some elements exploited this trend to incite the public and carry out riots."

The source affirmed that Algeria is stronger than all that is aimed against it because it has a strong political and command structure and strong ruling institutions. The source added that the fate of the "invisible hand" which works under the influence of foreign powers and stands behind these incidents will be a miserable failure.

The source announced the Algerian people's condemnation of the riots which are aimed at Algeria's security and stability as well as its people's interests, properties, and national and pan-Arab orientations in all fields.

Paper Blames 'Manipulation' of 'Naive Elements'
LD0910124188 Algiers APS in English
1118 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] The national daily EL MOUDJAHID devoted on Sunday an editorial to the gradual return to the (?work) activity in Algiers.

Under the title Make Prevail Reason EL MOUDJAHID underlined that the workers in the capital went yesterday to their work with the firm will to normally resume their work. Many of them had the opportunity to see the huge damages caused to the public patrimony in the troubles of this week end so every body wonders why such extremities why they face up to the daily difficulties in such a sinister way, to the destruction of the public patrimony will have positive effect on the cost of life. [sentence as received]

"It is not the Algerian youth which has spontaneously provoked such a destroying cyclone it is [word indistinct] that it is face to this 'manipulation' hatched at the detrimenta of naive elements who have been easily handled by element which have abstained from assuming grave risks."

Commentary Urges Public To Prevent Sabotage
LD0710230988 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
2200 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] The grave developments seen in our capital require us to adopt a unified stand, because the first duty of every citizen is to protect public property which belongs to all the people. Destroying public establishments and installations is self-destruction, and self here means the people.

It is true that our economic and social situation is going through crises due to external harassment and internal devious practices. But correction here should be by bringing together the national will to fight negative symptoms and to punish those who cause them. It should not be by destruction and sabotage, not least because the blow is aimed at the country's assets which belong to the people, achieved by the people of this land.

It will require great sacrifices to repair the damage caused in the past few days. Algeria's future is built by its people, and the future of its people is preserved by Algeria's prosperity, security, dignity, and reputation.

The first right of the citizen is to live in an atmosphere of security and stability. This is the duty of both citizen and state. On the other hand, provoking turmoil and chaos is a threat to the security and stability of the citizen, and it leads to results that cause damage to the citizen and homeland alike.

APS Reporter Dies 'While Accomplishing His Duty'
LD1110115488 Algiers APS in English 1023 GMT
11 Oct 88

[Text] Algiers, 11/10/88 (APS)—Sid Ali Benmechiche, a journalist and editor in charge of reports at the ALGERIAN NEWS AGENCY (APS) died Monday while accomplishing his duty.

Benmechiche, who was aged 33 and who was an Algiers University graduate, has been remarked many times for his human and professional qualities, his courage and his sense of responsibilities. It is worth recalling that during the hijacking of the Kuwaiti airplane, he was among the three journalists who interviewed the hijackers.

Egypt

Officials Voice 'Concern' Over Algerian Situation

Ghali on 'Bolstering' Ties

NC0910135288 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1325 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Cairo, 9 Oct (MENA)—Egypt today emphasized its concern with the ongoing events in Algeria and voiced the hope that the crisis will be contained soon and stability will be restored to this fraternal country.

Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, received Hachemi Kaddouri, head of the Algerian Interests Mission in Cairo, today. Dr Ghali stressed the need for bolstering the Arab fraternal ties between the two countries.

For his part, the head of the Algerian Interests Mission said he conveyed the greetings of Algerian officials. He said that the discussions dealt with the current situation in Algeria, noting that the situation has returned to normal. He added that the Algerian Government has handled the situation with rationalism.

The Algerian envoy maintained that the cooperation between the people and the forces entrusted with maintaining order has produced stability, helped restore normality, and led to the reopening of the university and the return of workers to their jobs.

Mubarak Appeals to Algerians

NC0910190988 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1739 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Cairo, 9 Oct (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak expressed his hope today that the situation in Algeria will stabilize. He stressed that the continuation of the disturbances will not improve living conditions nor remove suffering, but will lead to the contrary.

Responding to a reporter's question on the latest disturbances in Algeria, Mubarak said: "We in Egypt hope that law and security will prevail in that fraternal country so that the sons of the Algerian people can devote their time to construction and development in a stable atmosphere along with their brothers in the Arab and African countries. [no end quote as received]

Mubarak Expresses 'Regret'

NC1010115988 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1115 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Cairo, 10 Oct (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has expressed regret for the bloody events in Algeria.

Answering correspondents' questions after opening the Islamic Trade Fair today, President Mubarak said: The absence of diplomatic relations between us and Algeria does not mean that I should not sympathize with Algeria. Differences of view do not mean estrangement, because Algeria is an Arab country whether we like it or not and its people are brotherly and friendly.

President Mubarak appealed to the Algerian people to be prudent and said: Our hearts and souls are with them. He expressed hope that the Algerian leadership will succeed in controlling the situation calmly and that stability, security, and safety will prevail in fraternal Algeria. He added: Algeria's stability and security concern us just as Egypt's security does. It is an Arab, friendly, Muslim country and we always wish it stability, security, and safety. We also wish it prosperity and wish its people a dignified life.

The president added: I was very pained when I heard the reports of these events. I say that stability must be established there and the Algerian people must respond because persistence in this disturbance will in the end bring ruin on the Algerian citizen.

Answering a question on the development he saw in the various pavilions of the Arab countries taking part in the Islamic Trade Fair which he opened today, President Mubarak said that these countries are no longer depending on oil but are depending to a large extent on agriculture and industry.

He noted the achievements he saw in the UAE during his recent visit there and said: I still remember when UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan drove me in his car around a number of areas and I saw the agricultural development in that country. I am very pleased with what I saw there and with the industrial and agricultural development I saw in this fair. The happiness is the same I feel when I see development in Egypt because development in any Arab country means progress for the entire region.

MENA Interviews Shamir on Tabah, 'Uprising'

NC0710221088 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2145 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Cairo, 7 Oct (MENA)—Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said in an interview with AL-AHRAM newspaper, to be published tomorrow, Saturday, that the arbitration decision on the Tabah problem has only determined the border markers and not the issue of sovereignty. He stressed his country's respect for all international commitments and decisions. He added that he always expects good and close relations and more cooperation with Egypt in line with the peace treaty.

The Israeli prime minister denied reports that his country has asked for the postponement of the implementation of the arbitration ruling until after the Israeli elections. He said: Israel has not yet discussed the issue because of the holidays. I believe that we will discuss it next week to decide on the steps to be taken with regard

to the arbitration ruling. Egypt and Israel must reach an agreement on the ways to organize life in Tabah and on what will happen to tourism and movement there.

Responding to a question on the demands of some people to demolish the Sonesta Hotel and the tourist village there when the area reverts to Egyptian sovereignty, Shamir said that these voices are raised by individuals out of anger. He noted that he does not believe that there is anyone who is seriously saying such things in Israel.

Asked about the reason for his opposition to an international peace conference, Shamir said: Opposition is permissible and possible until they convince me. He added that he does not see any reason for the absence of relations between the Egyptian leadership and himself. He noted that he is interested in and concerned with this relationship and that he does not know why Egypt has decided to hold contacts with only a part of the Israeli Government.

Replying to a question on the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories, Shamir claimed that he has no doubts that the uprising will end. The majority of the Arabs of Palestine have become convinced that there is no use in sacrificing victims and that the course of violence they are pursuing has not brought them any result so far, he said.

Shamir tried to belittle the importance of the uprising's effect on world public opinion and its success in changing it. He said: The uprising does not have world public opinion behind it. There should not be any belief that there is a danger point in the relations between the West or the East and Israel. The uprising has not achieved any success. Israel can bear the consequences for delades but the Palestinians cannot go on paying a high price, without any result, for such a long time.

Answering a question on the Likud bloc's conditions for negotiating with the PLO, Shamir did not say anything new. He reiterated his view that the PLO does not want peace with Israel but seeks its destruction, and that therefore there is no point in holding peace negotiations, even if the PLO recognizes Israel, as this will be useless.

Asked how the Arab world could agree to peace with Israel when the latter is occupying Arab territories, Shamir said: Which territories? If there is a dispute and differences of view between Israel and the Arabs over borders, then let us sit down and negotiate on the borders. Regarding Israel's willingness to return territories through negotiations, Shamir said that Israel is ready for negotiations without preconditions.

AL-AHRAM asked him: And these negotiations will be in return for what? The Israeli prime minister replied: They will be in return for peace negotiations.

The paper repeated its question: Peace in return for what? Shamir tried to evade the answer and said: Naturally peace is an important thing.

Egypt's Abu Ghazalah Warns Israel Over Satellite

NC0710145188 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Responsible Egyptian security sources have revealed that Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, Egyptian deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, has asked the U.S. Administration to warn Israel of the consequences of using its satellite for military purposes, as this would affect the balance of power in the region. Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah has raised this matter with U.S. Assistant Defense Secretary Richard Armitage.

'Abd al-Majid Talks With PLO's Hani al-Hasan

NC1010133888 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1235 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Cairo, 10 Oct (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met here today with Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who is currently visiting Cairo. The meeting was attended by PLO Representative in Cairo Sa'id Kamal.

Hani al-Hasan told MENA that he and Dr 'Abd al-Majid followed up the results of President Husni Mubarak's talks with Yasir 'Arafat during the latter's visit to Cairo, as well as the results of Dr 'Abd al-Majid's talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz in New York. The Palestinian official noted that a change is emerging in the U.S. language with regard to the Palestinian issue, stressing that President Reagan has underlined, for the first time, the importance of realizing the Palestinian people's political rights.

Al-Hasan added that he and Dr 'Abd al-Majid reviewed the Palestinian action in the coming stage and the preparations for the PNC meetings, scheduled to be held at the end of October.

In his statement, Hani al-Hasan disclosed that the document on the establishment of a Palestinian state will be submitted at the upcoming PNC session. He added: If the PNC approves this, decisions will be made taking into account the consequences of the declaration of such a state, including the way the Palestinian government will be formed, the preparation of its budget, the relationship of such a government with the PLO Executive Committee, the formation of its parliament, and whether such a parliament would be the PNC itself or a mini-parliament formed from the PNC.

Answering a question on the possibility of postponing the declaration of a Palestinian state until after U.S. and Israeli elections in Novedmber, Hani al-Hasan said: The success of major events does not depend upon whether a

particular person stays or goes. The objective conditions for the declaration of a Palestinian state have been achieved now. He added that the Palestinian people are their own master, as well as the master over their soil in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

He stressed that neither a U.S. President nor an Israeli prime minister can ignore this fact which exists in the Palestinian territories. The Palestinian official noted that King Husayn's decision to sever legal and administrative links with the West Bank has underlined this fact.

Asked to comment on Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's recent reiteration that he will not negotiate with the PLO, Hani al-Hasan said that the PLO was not surprised by Shamir's statements because it knows his stand quite well and because he represents those leaders who reject reality. He added that there is a firm and well-established fact; namely, that the Palestinian people are present in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and that they support the PLO.

He pointed to the U.S. secretary of state's recent declaration that things cannot be restored to what they were before. The Palestinian official expressed his belief that Shamir will recognize the PLO sooner or later.

Hani al-Hasan hailed the Egyptian people and army, who created the 1973 October epic. He said that the Egyptian people wrested their right, which brought about the Israeli withdrawal from Egyptian territories. The Palestinian official praised recent statements by Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, in which he stressed the need to establish an Arab deterrent force.

Hani al-Hasan described this as a vital and extremely urgent demand as we are on the verge of the 21st century. He explained that political and economic blocs have become an inevitable necessity in this era, and stressed in this connection, that Egypt and Saudi Arabia constitute the basis of the Arab bloc.

Regarding the launch of the Israeli satellite, Hani al-Hasan called on the Arab countries to launch an Arab satellite. He said that Egypt has the brains to ensure the success of such an undertaking. The Palestinian official added that the Arabs must provide the necessary funds for this program.

Libya

'Arafat Discusses Resolutions With Al-Qadhdhafi

LD1110073188 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0720 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Tripoli, 11 Oct (JANA)—The brother leader of the revolution met with Brother Yasir 'Arafat and secretaries of the Palestinian revolutionary factions who submitted to the brother leader their resolutions which will be put forward to the PNC during its forthcoming meeting.

Jabir Meets Sudanese General, Minister

LD1010185188 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1815 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Tripoli, 10 October, JANA—Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, received today Brothers Mubarak al-Fadhil al-Mahdi, minister of energy and mining, and General Fathi Ahmad Ali, commander in chief of the Armed Forces in brotherly Sudan.

OPEC Conference on Oil Prices Urged

LD0910190388 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1840 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Tripoli, 9 Oct (JANA)—JANA has learned that after consultations with some OPEC member-countries, the Great Jamahiriyah calls for the convening of a urgent extraordinary conference of the OPEC Ministerial Council as soon as possible. This is to take the necessary measures to stop declining prices, restore stability to the oil market, and to take prices up to limits fair to both consumer and producer in such a way as to ensure a just benefit for both producer and consumer.

Zairian Airliner Forced To Land in Tripoli

LD0710203188 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1840 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Tripoli 7 Oct (JANA)—Civil aviation authorities in the Great Jamahiriyah this morning ordered a Zairian DC-8 cargo plane to land at Tripoli International Airport when it was flying in Jamahiriyah airspace without prior permission to transit Libyan Arab airspace.

The civil aviation authorities said that after ascertaining its identity, the Brussels-bound Zairian plane, Flight SZR 700, No 9QCTG, which entered Libyan Arab airspace from the region of Tomo, was allowed to continue its flight.

Tunisia

President Ben Ali Assures Bendjedid of Support

LD0710140288 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali this morning telephoned President Chadli Bendjedid to be reassured on the situation in Algeria following the recent grievous events. The president expressed his regrets over these events and stressed the solidarity of Tunisia—its president, government, and people—with sisterly Algeria.

Kuwait

Algeria's Bendjedid: Situation Back to 'Normal'

LD0810114788 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1106 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Kuwait, 8 Oct (KUNA)—The amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, has telephoned President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria.

The Algerian president informed Shaykh Jabir of the situation in Algeria. He confirmed to him that the situation has returned to normal.

British Decision Inflicts 'Great Damage'

JN0810181588 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 7 Oct 88 pp 1, 26

[Editorial: "It Is Britain's Loss ... !"]

[Text] No doubt, the British decision reducing Kuwait's stock in British Petroleum has inflicted great damage on Kuwaiti-British relations and on Britain's relations with the GCC states.

This decision has caused a wave of dissatisfaction among Kuwaiti political and economic circles. It has also caused shock among investors and owners of Gulf deposits and capital who have wide and old interests in British companies and banks.

Hence, contacts are under way on more than one level to study the negative effects that the British decision will have on Gulf interests in Britain. It is not ruled out that the next few weeks and months may witness transfers of capital and withdrawals of deposits to European and U.S. banks and investment establishments. Given that Britain has preferred its temporary interest to its historic relations and traditional interests with both Kuwait and the GCC states, the GCC states are dutybound to choose all available methods to defend their interests and protect their investments according to the circumstances and considerations linked to market and investment affairs.

Kuwait is not impotent, and it has wide experience in international investments. Thus, Kuwait will not be much affected and will defy the British decision legally and with other means, as DAILY TELEGRAPH said. Harm will be inflicted on British Petroleum on the stock market because British Petroleum's attempt to regain its stock by purchasing it anew will be a complicated process. British newspapers yesterday pointed out that Kuwait's participation in the British oil company caused profound fears among economic and oil circles. They also expected that differences between Kuwait and Britain may result in a sharp decline in the price of the British oil company's stock.

At any rate, the British decision will have negative ramifications on economic relations between Britain and the GCC states, particularly after foreign investments in Britain enjoy freedom and benefit from the free economic policies advocated by the Thatcher government.

The British decision was a blow to the free economic order. States having investment and trade interests such as the GCC states will be concerned with pausing, reconsidering, and providing the necessary means to protect their own trade interests and financial investments against political fluctuations and hasty decisions, as was the case with the British decision.

The way is still open for Kuwait to do whatever it deems appropriate to defend its interests, protect its investments, and reply to British measures—taken against a party that exercised its right to purchase stock in a world oil company on a purely trade basis and according to international market considerations.

'Regret' Expressed Over Move

LD0910152988 Kuwait KUNA in English 1252 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Kuwait, Oct 9 (KUNA)—Kuwait Sunday expressed mixed feelings of surprise and deep regret over the decision of the British Government to cut Kuwait's stake in British Petroleum (BP) from 21.6 percent to 9.9 percent.

A Kuwaiti Government meeting this morning discussed the issue and decided to "to take all necessary measures to protect Kuwait's economic interests in Britain," the government spokesman said after the cabinet session.

The spokesman, State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, who was talking to reporters, added that actions at all levels were examined so as to preserve the country's investments abroad. He did not elaborate. [passage omitted]

Qatar

Minister, Perez de Cuellar Discuss Gulf Peace

JN0710183388 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1730 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] New York, 7 Oct (WAKH)—Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, held talks with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in New York today.

Informed Gulf diplomatic sources here have explained that the talks between the Qatari minister and the UN secretary general focused on all aspects of the Iraqi-Iranian conflict and continuous, intensified efforts of the UN secretary general to implement fully and equally all clauses of Security Council Resolution No 598.

It has been learned that the Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs has conveyed his government's full backing for the constructive, positive role played by the UN secretary general to implement Security Council Resolution No 598 and to encourage both sides to the conflict, Iraq and Iran, to reach a lasting, just, and honorable peace agreement.

Soviet Official Denies Naval Facilities on Coast

JN0810182888 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 7 Oct 88 pp 1, 21

[Text] New York—A Soviet official has told AL-ITTIHAD that his country has not asked Qatar to grant it naval facilities on its coast. He pointed out that the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries has nothing to do with the desire for naval facilities. He said that the Soviet mission in Qatar has not yet begun its work.

This came in a recent report published by THE WASHINGTON POST saying that Qatar has managed to establish diplomatic relations with the USSR and the PRC following the crisis that erupted between it and the United States regarding the Stinger missiles it had obtained from world markets. The paper added that Qatar will grant the Soviet naval forces the same facilities Bahrain grants to the United States.

Earlier, Qatari Foreign Minister Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani received USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy in New York.

Saudi Arabia

King Fahd Addresses Council on Algeria, Lebanon

LD1010181588 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1647 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Jeddah 10 Oct (SPA)—King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, chaired the council of ministers meeting this afternoon, 10 October, at Al-Salam Palace in Jeddah. After the meeting, Information Minister Ali al-Sha'ir pointed out to SPA that the custodian of the two holy mosques began the meetings with a comprehensive address on some of the important aspects of local affairs in the agricultural, health, information, and educational fields and issued directives to the ministers of education and employment to double their efforts on students' affairs. [passage omitted]

The council heard, on the king's directive, a synopsis of the political and information reports on the most prominent current events in the Arab region and islamic world. The council expressed deep satisfaction with and pride in the convening of the first conference of Islamic Information Ministers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia at this critical period of islamic history. The council expressed great hope that this conference will result in realizing the expectations of the Islamic nation—leaders and peoples—in the field of information cooperation among islamic states, and in a manner that guarantees the implementation of the applicable islamic summit resolutions.

The council expressed deep discontent and denunciation for what took place—acts of sabotage carried out by irresponsible elements—in the fraternal Republic of Algeria. The council renewed the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's support for Algeria's president, Government, and people in confronting such behavior. It expressed hope that matters will return to normal as soon as possible to end the bloodshed and protect the homeland's wealth and destiny.

Minister al-Sha'ir added: Concerning the Lebanese situation, the custodian of the two holy mosques informed the council of what he envisages, particularly regarding the country's affairs, and pointed out that the Kingdom's efforts will continue to speed up the Lebanese parliamentary meeting to elect a new president.

The king, may God protect him, mentioned what the Kingdom has been warning about since 1975 and said: "However, and despite all the current circumstances in Lebanon, Lebanon is still capable of dressing its wounds and getting back on its feet because God has provided it with sons and leaders who can preserve its unity, restore its cohesion, and enable it to exercise its total liberty in making decisions that express its sovereignty and independence."

The information minister said: "Regarding the oil situation, the council reiterated the Kingdom's anxiousness to comply with its agreed on production quota as soon as all OPEC member states comply with their quotas. The Kingdom will offer its full support to OPEC for the preservation of OPEC's cohesion." [passage omitted]

Official Urges Information Experts To Back Iraq

JN0910145188 Baghdad INA in English 1255 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Jeddah, Oct 9, INA—An Iraqi information official urged information experts, now in session here, to adopt attitudes for backing Iraq's call for ceasefire at sea, in the air and on land.

Addressing the experts session here last night, Mr. 'Abd al-Amir Mu'alla, Iraqi information undersecretary said Islamic countries must support Iraq's efforts for achieving a permanent and comprehensive peace with Iran based on accepting Iraqi firm right in Shatt al-'Arab. He added that ending tension between Iraq and Iran totally necessitates supporting the Iraqi viewpoint.

Experts from 45 Islamic cou[illegible]es are in session in Jeddah now to pave the way for convening the conference of Islamic countries' information ministers here next Tuesday for laying down strategy of the joint Islamic information action.

The Iraqi information undersecretary said Iran is manipulating for consecrating the state of tension and imposing a formula based on withdrawing from the land and not dealing with the question of free navigation in the Gulf waters.

The Iraqi information official called for exposing the Zionist propaganda objectives and considering it a priority for information responsibilities of the Islamic countries and an issue concerning all Muslims the world over.

During last night session, conferees listened to a Palestinian working paper on dimensions and means for backing the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories.

Oil Minister Denies Plan To Leave OPEC

LD0810212788 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2030 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Jeddah, 8 Oct (SPA)—Minister of Oil and Mineral Resources Hisham Nazir told SPA: The news media have begun to give unjustified interpretations to the statement issued by the Council of Ministers, the terms of which had been couched with a precision that bears no interpretation.

He added: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has not thought about leaving OPEC. It is not happy about the current situation of the market and does not consider that it created it. Saudi Arabia still calls for a return to the agreed production levels, and it will be the first to stick to them.

He added that those in charge in the OPEC member states, who are concerned over the current situation of the oil market and who say so to the news media, must return the production of their respective countries to the agreed upon levels so that stability may return to the market.

Yemen Arab Republic

Sanaa Radio on Foreign Minister's UN Speech

JN0810174788 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, Standing Committee member, and our country's chief delegate to the 43d session of the UN General Assembly, yesterday delivered our country's address. He congratulated the president of the new session and expressed appreciation for Perez de Cuellar's efforts to find solutions to problems around the world which the United Nations has been striving to resolve in keeping with its objectives and in the interests of world peace and security. He lauded the role of the organization [words indistinct] particularly given that it coincided with an international climate favoring [words indistinct] finding solutions to problems that have [words indistinct] world peace and security.

He said: The world body [words indistinct] the international community the idea of [words indistinct] through current peace efforts in the Arabian Gulf, Southeast Asia, Southern Africa, and Namibian independence. These efforts not only testify to the world body's success in discharging its role in safeguarding and keeping peace but also prove that its responsibility in progress or inaction [words indistinct] are largely dependent on the behavior of all member nations.

He pointed out that this [word indistinct] in the midst of a climate of relief and optimism over what has been achieved [words indistinct] for the thaw in relations between the two superpowers, most notably the signing of the agreement dismantling the short and medium-range nuclear missiles and [words indistinct] the first step on the road to total disarmament. In his speech to the 43d UN General Assembly session, Dr al-'Iryani called on the international community at large and the nuclear powers in particular to strive to keep the Middle East and Indian Ocean free of any nuclear arms and to work toward channeling the considerable expenditure devoted to the arms race to economic and social development. He reiterated our country's rejection of [words indistinct] in the Indian Ocean and its natural extensions, noting that the Zionist enemy is practicing the ugliest forms of oppression, repression, and terrorism against the unarmed, defenseless Palestinian people in disregard of UN resolutions and in defiance of the entire world community. The enemy is violating all human values and obstructing all international efforts to resolve the Mideast issue.

He emphasized that an international peace conference attended by permanent members of the UN Security Council and all the parties concerned, including the PLO—the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinians—is the only practical framework for working out a just, durable peace in the Middle East.

Dr al-'Iryani expressed our country's satisfaction with UN Security Council Resolution No 598 [words indistinct] providing for a cease-fire and direct negotiations under the auspices of the UN secretary general. He reiterated our country's condemnation of the ugly, aggressive acts of repression, terrorism, and deportation, torture, and arbitrary detentions by the racist Pretoria regime against the nationalist uprisings by the people of South Africa. He indicated that taking urgent, practical measures to grant Namibia independence will constitute a triumph for its striving people and all the peoples that have [word indistinct] colonialism and Zionism. Dr al-'Iryani concluded that further efforts are needed to [words indistinct]

Hammadi on Talks With Iran, U.S. 'Campaign'

JN0810113088 in Arabic Kuwait AL-ANBA'
6 Oct 88 p 25

[Interview with Sa'dun Hammadi, minister of state for foreign affairs, by Liqa' Makki in Baghdad—date not given]

[Text] [Makki] Do you believe that the next round of direct negotiations between Iraq and Iran will break the deadlock reached in the first round?

[Hammadi] Yes, I believe so. Why not, if the Iranian side becomes realistic, considers all matters, and becomes desperate from the possibility of the success of tactics, maneuvers, and pressures, and after the explanation we made to all parties? Iran needs peace. It might not be easy, but it is not impossible.

[Makki] You recently toured the capitals of permanent countries [of the Security Council]. Have you found different stands in these capitals on the topics of the negotiations and toward Iraq in particular?

[Hammadi] Yes. The stands of these countries are not united. The stands of these countries differ on many things. Each country has its own motives, interests, interpretations, and views. There is no one identical stand. Some stands are similar and some countries hold common opinions on certain matters. However, each country has its own stand. The stands of these countries are different. In general, some countries expressed support for Iraq on certain issues. My assessment and conclusion is that these countries believe that our stands on some issues are sound but there are reasons they cannot declare these stands.

In some cases they are excused, but in other cases they are not. Although we would like these countries to declare their real stands, the most important thing to us is that these countries know our stands on the basic issues that should be resolved so that the negotiations will reach good results. They heard our stands and we explained them so that they will not misjudge them and so that there will be no misunderstanding resulting from statements by the Iranian side and media distortion. These matters were explained in a good way. Therefore, this tour was useful.

[Makki] We notice that the timing of the American campaign against Iraq and the draft resolution approved by the U.S. Senate coincided with your visit to the United States. Do you believe there is a specific purpose behind this timing?

[Hammadi] I believe there is a link between our meeting with the U.S. secretary of state and the timing of the statement by U.S. State Department Spokesman Redman. However, the campaign was at the beginning and it reached its climax during that time. I can say that the U.S. State Department intentionally issued the statement to the press through Redman 2 hours before the meeting. The purpose is to put pressure on the meeting and to show the U.S. stand before the meeting takes place.

The basic factor of the timing of the campaign in the United States is the coincidence of two things: first, the military campaign carried out by the Armed Forces to destroy the pocket of rebellion in northern Iraq that helped the Iranian regime attack Halabjah; and, second, the elections in the United States. This was an appropriate climate and opportunity for the Zionist lobby and groups in America to gain supportive stands from the two parties because they are in a competitive situation—the administration is Republican and the Congress is Democratic.

[Makki] You met with Shultz following Redman's statement. Did the U.S. claims influence the atmosphere of the meeting?

[Hammadi] This issue was discussed at the end of the meeting and not at its beginning because we were the ones who requested this meeting. Shultz said: You asked for this meeting and I am willing to hear what you have to say. The truth is that this meeting was scheduled to take place before the emergence of the issue of the so-called chemical weapons. We wanted to discuss other topics. First of all, we wanted to discuss the important issues between us and Iran within the framework of the Geneva negotiations. This was the primary topic we wanted to discuss.

After I explained these issues to him, Shultz spoke about the chemical weapons. It goes without saying that when he spoke about this issue, the atmosphere became tense because he used strong words which transformed the atmopshere that prevailed into a not-so-cordial atmosphere. He said that future relations will depend on this issue. Therefore, the atmosphere at the end of the meeting was tense.

[Makki] Generally speaking, we were not surprised by the U.S. stand and the British stand, which is close to it. Can we say that the stand that France and the USSR adopted was more balanced?

[Hammadi] Of course. There is a big difference between the stands adopted by Washington and London on the issue of chemical weapons and the stands adopted by Moscow and Paris. I met with French officials before the campaign. My meeting with Shevardnadze took place after the campaign and following my U.S. visit. The USSR has experienced similar media campaigns that the West wages against it from time to time for specific objectives, particularly on human rights. Of course, there is a difference between their stands on this topic.

[Makki] Will Iraq arrange its post-war political and economic relations on the foreign level on the basis of the foreign parties' stands toward it during the war?

[Hammadi] I cannot say that our stands toward other countries after the war will be completely based on the stands they adopted toward us during the war. This is so because no country bases its foreign relations only on past considerations. There are also future considerations and the many developments that may take place. There are pan-Arab interests and Arab relations. All these must be considered when Iraq or any other country formulates foreign policy. However, I can confirm here that the stands of the countries toward us during the war will be one of the factors that will define our policy toward them. We will not forget anything. We will not let bygones be bygones. We will consider these stands. However, this will not be the only factor that we will consider. If we did that, our policy would be governed only by past considerations.

[Makki] Even on the Arab level?

[Hammadi] Our stand toward Arab countries is that of cooperating with and assisting any Arab country that needs assistance. However, the war has demonstrated to us that some Arab regimes are ready to violate the minimum level of Arab action. In other, words, some Arab regimes are ready to proceed along a rejected course. These Arab countries cooperate with the enemy to occupy an Arab land. The war has shown us that some Arab countries have actually done so. This is a regrettable thing. We were hoping that no Arab regime would violate this minimum level of Arab action. However, some Arab regimes did so.

[Makki] While addressing this topic, we believe it is important to recall the Arab support and solidarity with Iraq on the Arab popular and official level in spite of the few Arabs you have mentioned. What about the Gulf, Jordanian, and Egyptian stands?

[Hammadi] I believe that this depends on the relations that exist between us. Of course, I do not believe that cooperation and Arab solidarity had been as they should have been. They were good but not as they should have been, not only with respect to Iraq but with respect to the Palestinian cause and other pan-Arab causes. It goes without saying that the stage in which we live is not one of the best stages in Arab history. Some call it the bad times, those of weakness and not strength of Arab solidarity. This Arab solidarity has not been manifested as it should be, not only with respect to Iraq but also with respect to other pan-Arab issues.

However, I believe that the Arab solidarity that has been achieved so far on the popular and official level has brought the Arab countries closer to one another and has removed many of the doubts that used to distance Arab countries from one another. Large steps on the road to confidence-building have been made between Iraq and the Arab countries, and among the Arab countries themselves. Therefore, this Arab solidarity about which you are speaking has largely contributed to bringing the Arabs closer. Arab solidarity has been enhanced as many doubts have been removed.

[Makki] Strong and victorious Iraq has united the Arabs. However, we still have a divided Lebanon, which the Arabs have not yet agreed to save from its tribulation. What is your stand on the Lebanese crisis?

[Hammadi] We sincerely wish that Lebanon will become a united and independent country and that all of us will refrain from intefering in its domestic affairs. Why should Arab countries remain silent on Lebanon? I believe that the Arabs' role is not one that unites. It is a role that divides and it is biased. It is baised one day toward this party and the other to another party. This only exacerbates the differences. Why should this issue not be discussed anew?

[Makki] Do you believe that there is a deal behind the postponenment of the discussion of this issue?

[Hammadi] I do not know whether such a deal exists or not. However, this makes one wonder.

[Makki] Why does not Iraq submit this issue for discussion by the Arab League Council?

[Hammadi] Such an idea came to my mind just now. This is only my personal opinion This issue was not discussed by our government, and nothing of the sort has been discussed or brought up at an official meeting. Is Iraq the most suitable country to submit this? Why should not the Arab countries take the initiative and seriously discuss this issue at the level of an Arab summit or an Arab League meeting?

[Makki] There are now two governments in Lebanon: A military government under Michel 'Awn appointed by President al-Jumayyil before he ended his term in office, and Dr Salim al-Huss' government, which refuses to step down. Does Iraq have a specific stand on one of these two governments?

[Hammadi] This is a domestic affair and I do not know whether Iraq has adopted a stand on one of the two governments. As far as I know, this has not taken place.

[Makki] Regarding Lebanese legitimacy, do you believe that only one of the two governments possesses legitimacy?

[Hammadi] What is the use of talking about legitimacy? It is difficult for me personally to talk about this issue. However, I know that President al-Jumayyil is an elected and legitimate president. This I know, but I did not have the opportunity to be acquainted with the details of the complicated Lebanese situation. Therefore, I cannot give my opinion on this matter, because if you want to talk

about it you have to talk about the technical and legal details. What is legitimate? You have to talk about the House of Representatives and other things. In fact, I did not have the chance to be acquainted with this situation.

[Makki] The PNC will soon discuss the issue of declaring a Palestinian government-in-exile or an independent Palestinian state. What is Iraq's stand on the Palestinian decision to this effect?

[Hammadi] We support any decision made by the Palestinians and the PLO. We will stand on the side of the PLO in any decision it makes.

[Makki] Regardless of your official position, in your capacity as a known Arab intellectual, do you believe that proclamation of a Palestinian state at this time will serve the Palestinian issue?

[Hammadi] In light of pan-Arab interests and in terms of the conflict with the Zionist entity, the Palestinian people should have an entity. You ask of course from the angle of unity whether the emergence of a new state is considered a development on the path of unity. If you mean this, the general issue is not what serves or does not serve the idea of Arab unity, the issue is confrontation with the enemy.

[Makki] If we look at the issue from the angle of historical advantage, there are Palestinian factions that still reject the proclamation of a state in the West Bank and Gaza and consider this contrary to the PNC constitution. In your opinion, do you believe that the proclamation of a Palestinian state would positively contribute to giving momentum to the Palestinian struggle and investing the results of the uprising?

[Hammadi] I believe that the best thing we can present to the Palestine question is to stand behind the legitimate representative of the Palestinians, namely, the PLO. It is not in the interest of the cause to support or oppose this or that party before the Palestinians make their own decision. Let us give the representative of the Palestinians sufficient and free time to make the decision. After making the decision, I believe it is our duty to support this decision no matter what. That is, if we want to talk or tackle the situation. However, if we want to talk about general principles—in terms of theoretical principles—this is something else. If we want to talk about tackling the present situation, the best pan-Arab stand for all of us is to support the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, that is, the PLO.

The PLO is the representative of the overwhelming majority of the Palestinian people, not only the majority, but the overwhelming majority inside and outside the occupied territory. If we want to benefit the Palestine question, our duty is to back this decision to be made by the PLO. If some oppose and others support a decision by the PLO, we will not benefit the cause and it will be harder for the PLO to make a decision.

[Makki] Back to the subject of relations with the United States. Now that the U.S. campaign has subsided and evidence refuting its claims has emerged, have U.S.-Iraqi relations normalized after the tension that prevailed in the past few weeks, especially after Senator Gary Hart's visit to Baghdad?

[Hammadi] No, what happened had a negative impact. They organized a campaign against us and used strong terms. The subject is not over. We do not know what happened to Congress' economic boycott proposals and the President's stand on them. Will they take unfriendly steps in their relationship with us? All these are not over yet. The negative impact occurred, but if the United States wants to deal with this impact, we will have no objection. If it wants to rectify and redress this action, the door is open to do so. However, it should deal with it through deeds, not words.

[Makki] And with Britain? I notice that Britain still views Iraq as a country that was once under its occupation. It still carries the complex of nationalization and its disgraceful expulsion from Iraq. Do you expect ties with Britain to develop in the future without tension and British complexes?

[Hammadi] Talk about the past disturbs relations because our past with Britain was not good. However, we are ready to turn over a new leaf and look to the future. It is possible for relations to develop if they manage to free themselves of past complexes and deal with Iraq honestly on the basis of mutual respect. We have explained this to them several times. Relations will be disturbed if any of us considers the past. We are totally dissatisfied with their past behavior in Iraq and elsewhere. If they want to include the past, then this will mean that they will include their complexes. We are ready to turn over a new leaf and look to the future.

However, this depends on them in the first place and not on us. The matter depends on what they do. If they do something bad, we will reciprocate. We will react and not forgive anyone who does anything that harms us, be he big or small. The matter depends on them, not us. We dealt with them honestly, soundly, and clearly. It all depends on them. If they want to deal with Iraq on the basis of past considerations, this will be impossible and we will respond to any misdeed.

[Makki] I believe that Iraq's relations with France and the Soviet Union are based on this principle. I also beleive that these two countries are closer to Iraq economically and politically than the other big powers.

[Hammadi] Beyond doubt... we have advanced relations with France and the Soviet Union.

[Makki] Can you sum up the basic principles governing Iraqi foreign policy?

[Hammadi] Iraqi foreign policy toward the external and not the Arab world is based on the principle of nonalignment. But, to be more specific, we would like to say that our policy toward the world is based on legitimate rather than mere interests. Nay, they are based on the basis of legal and legitimate interests. This means maintaining equitable dealings, respecting sovereignty, and respecting the principle of noninterference in internal affairs. We believe that the world must comprise sovereign states that maintain ties of amity and cooperation among each other—states that do not quarrel over boundaries, do not exploit each other, and do not interfere in each other's affairs. This is the principle that governs our international relations.

[Makki] We would like to see more light shed on the issue of direct negotiations. We do not want to repeat once again Iraq's declared and firm stands—namely, sovereignty over Shatt al-'Arab and the freedom of navigation at sea as a springboard for implementing the second article of Resolution No 598. Are you satisfied with the United Nations' role in the negotiations? Was the United Nations' stand in managing the negotiations positive?

[Hammadi] First, I would like to correct something. What is being discussed in the negotiations at present is not sovereignty over Shatt al-'Arab, although this issue is important. What is being discussed right now is the article pertaining to the cease-fire. This article or step needs operative steps to entrench the cease-fire. I am referring here to operative measures. The operative measures regarding the cease-fire on land and in the air have been agreed upon. However, differences surfaced over the operative measures governing the cease-fire at sea. We say that to entrench the cease-fire at sea, Iraq must enjoy freedom of navigation just like Iran so that Iraq and Iran can benefit equally from the cease-fire.

As for Shatt al-'Arab, we said that Shatt al-'Arab is Iraq's sole outlet to the Gulf. Because it will take some time to clear it, clearing operations must start now in hopes that the process will have been completed or will have gone a long way toward completion when the negotiations are completed and a peace agreement is concluded. So, when we sign a peace agreement, Iraq can immediately use its ports as well as Shatt al-'Arab for navigation so that we can equal Iran in use of ports. The Iranians reject this as they seek to exert pressure on Iraq. They realize that Iraq needs Shatt al-'Arab. Although we demand sovereignty over Shatt al-'Arab, this is not the issue being discussed at the negotiations, which focus on the issue of the cease-fire.

As for the United Nations, we accepted Resolution No 598 from the beginning. There were ups and downs in the UN secretary general's stands. We were able to surmount these difficulties through discussions and clarification of stands. Of course, neither the UN secretary general nor his representative is a party to the negotiations. The negotiations are being conducted between Iraq and Iran, and the party actually supervising the negotiations is the UN Security Council.

Because the UN Security Council with all of its members cannot physically maintain a daily supervision of the negotiations and their details, the services of the UN secretary general are utilized. However, he derives his stands, and must derive these stands and opinions, from the UN Security Council. So, he is not a party that can be separated from this council.

[Makki] Mr Minister, as for the idea of diverting Shatt al-'Arab, has the idea been approved or is it still under discussion?

[Hammadi] No, it has not been approved yet. We are discussing the idea. However, the proposal is serious.

[Makki] Thank you, Mr Minister, and we wish you success.

Rabin: Rioters Should Expect Casualties

TA0810163788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says that when rioters in the territories confront the IDF, they should come away with casualties, with scars. They should know that there will be casualties, not just detainees. This is my policy and I am responsible for it, he emphasized. According to Minister Rabin, 250 people have been killed, 7,000 wounded, and 18,000 detained since the beginning of the uprising. Today there are 5,600 people locked up in army facilities, in addition to 4,000 jailed terrorists. These are not insignificant numbers, he said, but the IDF has not yet achieved the two goals he was entrusted with: to bring about maximum calm, and to ensure the Israeli administration's activity in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza.

The defense minister noted he is opposed to the idea of transfer and mass deportations. In his opinion, however, selective deportation of instigators is an effective tool. Minister Rabin spoke at an interview program in Beersheba.

Rabin: No Need To React to PLO Moves

TA1110072988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says he is opposed to negotiations with the PLO and to a Palestinian state, and that there is therefore no need to react to reports that the PLO intends to announce the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

Minister Rabin told our correspondent Karmela Menashe that the attempts to stir up violence during the election campaign are extremely serious and mainly harm Israel's strength and internal unity.

The defense minister, who inaugurated the Yad Lebanim Museum in Ra'ananna, noted that there is an increase in the number of youths who volunteer for combat units.

Cabinet Briefed on Sharon East Europe Trips

TA1010070288 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Report by political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami]

[Text] This morning Minister Sharon briefed the Cabinet on his visits to East Europe. He has recently visited three East European capitals: Bucharest, Romania; Warsaw, Poland; and late last week, Sofia, Bulgaria. This week, Sharon is scheduled to leave for Budapest, Hungary for economic talks.

Sharon was the first Israeli minister to visit Bulgaria since the severance of diplomatic relations in 1967. Like their fellow Eastern Bloc countries, the Bulgarians are anxious to have relations with Israel so as to use its influence to elicit investment, primarily from the United States, to rehabilitate their ailing economies.

Sharon told the Cabinet that in his talks in East Europe, he noticed a sincere desire to achieve economic independence. He attributes this to the changes in the Soviet Union. The Bulgarians asked for assistance in modernizing and automating their banking system. Minister Sharon brought them proposals from Israeli computer programming companies as well as suggestions from a large U.S. bank. In his talks in the Bulgarian capital, Minister Sharon and his hosts agreed on the opening of Bulgarian and Israeli trade representations.

Nevertheless, it seems that Sharon's East European tours are looked upon unfavorably by the Foreign Ministry. Sharon maintained that he had coordinated all his trips with the prime minister and that he had informed the relevant office in the Foreign Ministry of them. Foreign Ministry spokesman Alon Li'el told us this evening that the Foreign Ministry wonders about the Industry and Trade Ministry's operations with regard to a political issue that is the Foreign Ministry's purview. The spokesman claimed that the Foreign Ministry knew nothing about Sharon's trip to Bulgaria.

Furthermore, Foreign Ministry officials are currently coordinating the resumption of ties with their Bulgarian counterparts. Sharon in fact gave the Bulgarians what they wanted without securing for Israel what it could have demanded in return, argues the Foreign Ministry. Minister Sharon's reaction to this was: The Foreign Ministry knew about my journeys and would not have been able to obtain anything beyond my achievements.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1930 GMT on 9 October further reports that "Bulgarian Deputy Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov has transmitted a message to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, detailing Bulgaria's position on the possibility of resuming diplomatic relations." The message was conveyed by Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon.]

Level of Delegation Leader in Moscow Raised

TA1010052888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Israel has decided to raise the level of the head of the Israeli delegation in Moscow. The foreign minister has approved the assignment of Arye Levin, head of the ministry's center for political research who is a senior assistant director general. Levin will replace Meron Gordon, the current head of the delegation. A few days ago the Soviets extended the visas of the Israeli delegation members by 3 months.

Anti-Occupation Demonstration in Tel Aviv

TA0810211888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Hundreds participated this evening in a demonstration in Tel Aviv organized by the Enough to Occupation, Yesh Gevul [There Is a Limit], and the 21st Year [Hashana Ha'esrim Ve'ahat] protest movements. The purpose of the demonstration was to express opposition to Israel's policy in the territories. Our correspondent Pe'erli Shahar reports that the demonstrators marched along the Ibn Gevirol street and later held a rally on the Tel Aviv museum premises.

Explosive Charge Safely Dismantled in 'Afula

TA1110094788 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0930 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] An explosive charge was safely dismantled near the 'Afula Post Office a short time ago. A postal worker was conducting searches outside the building when he discovered a suspicious package. A bomb disposal expert detonated the explosive charge. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz reports that extensive searches are currently under way in 'Afula to make certain that no more explosive charges have been planted.

Manifesto Calls for Death of Collaborators

TA1110102188 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] A manifesto calling for the death of those who collaborate with the Israeli authorities was distributed in the village of Kabul, near 'Akko, last night. The manifesto also threatens to attack the members of the ad hoc committee appointed by the Interior Ministry some time ago. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that the manifesto is signed by the popular committee in the village of Kabul. The police have launched an investigation and detentions are expected.

W. Bank School Workers Put on Leave Without Pay

TA1010090188 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Oct 88 p 4

[Report by Dan Sagir and Eytan Rabin]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The Civil Administration has notified 9,000 school workers in the West Bank that they will be put on leave without pay, retroactively from 6 October and until further notice. To reduce the financial damage to teachers and other school workers in the territories, who were badly hurt a few months ago by Jordan's decision to stop paying their salaries, the Civil Administration will give them a financial grant worth half their monthly salary.

In practice, the significance of this move is that there will be no regular studies in the West Bank this year either. This decision by the Civil Administration and the IDF constitutes a serious means of pressure on the population. [passage omitted]

Riots, IDF Moves Mark 11th Month of 'Uprising'

3 Dead, 14 Wounded in Nabulus

TA0710153088 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Three people were killed and 14 wounded during riots in the Nabulus area today. Arab sources report 4 dead and 18 wounded. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the IDF is certain that two people were killed in the town of Nabulus during the dispersal of riots. The body of a local resident was found in the village of Burqa, and the IDF is looking into the circumstances of his death. The commander of the Central Command visited Nabulus this afternoon and was briefed about today's serious riots.

House Demolished in Gaza

TA0710172088 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] The security forces have torn down a house south of Gaza from which a hand grenade was thrown at an Israeli car about a week ago. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that two residents were wounded in disturbances today in Dayr al-Balah, Al-Shaja'iyah, and the Jabalyah refugee camp. Prayers in the mosques generally ended without a incident.

As for Judaea and Samaria, our correspondent notes that the dead person whose body was discovered in the village of Burqa today was stabbed with knives, murdered apparently for collaborating with the authorities. Two inhabitants were killed and 14 wounded in the Nabulus area today while riots were being dispersed.

W. Bank Strike, Nabulus Curfew

TA0810103788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Two youths were wounded in clashes with the security forces in Tulkarm this morning. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that there were many stone-throwing incidents and many tires were burned in Tulkarm this morning.

In Judaea and Samaria there is a general strike today to protest the death of four Nabulus residents yesterday. In Nabulus and the adjoining refugee camps the curfew is still in force. The curfew also continues in the village of Biddiya, in which the local mukhtar was murdered several days ago because he cooperated with Israel.

2 Reported Dead

TA0810142488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] There are another two dead in the territories. A local resident, Ahmad Zayd al-Kilani, was shot and killed in the village of Ya'bad in the Janin area. The IDF is looking into the circumstances of his death. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that a fight had broken out between families, and shots were suddenly fired. An IDF squad was stoned when it entered the village to restore order.

A resident of the 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma' refugee camp in the Nabulus area, who was wounded 10 days ago, died in the Al-Maqasid Hospital in East Jerusalem last night. When the body was returned, a riot erupted despite the curfew.

The IDF acted to restore order, and two youths were wounded. Arab sources report five people wounded. Four people were wounded in other incidents in Ramallah and Tulkarm.

'Many' Incidents in Gaza Strip

TA0810183688 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Four Arab residents were wounded by IDF soldiers' gunfire in the Gaza Strip today. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that an Arab attacked a soldier in the Al-Burayj refugee camp, endangering the soldier's life, when he was required to erase a slogan from the wall of his house. The soldier had to open fire, wounding the attacker. Three Arabs were wounded by plastic bullets in the Al-Shaykh Radwan neighborhood in Gaza and in Khan Yunus.

There were many incidents involving the stoning of soldiers in the Gaza Strip today. Fourteen residents were wounded in Judaea and Samaria today. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1600 GMT on 8 October adds that "a Jew in the Wadi al-Jawz neighborhood in East Jerusalem was injured in the head. He was hit by a stone thrown at him while he was washing his car in one of the local garages. The man was taken to the hospital. Additionally, policemen were stoned near the Ibrahimiyah school. They had to resort to the use of tear gas."]

Strikes, Curfews in Territories

TA0910095888 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0930 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Today there is a general strike in the territories. There are also disturbances, curfews, detentions, and IDF search operations on the day marking the beginning of the 11th month of the uprising in the territories. Our correspondent 'Ezra Yanuv reports from the Gaza Strip:

[Begin recording] The general strike in the Gaza Strip towns—initiated by the organizers of the riots in the area—is almost complete. Very few vehicles can be seen in the streets. In compliance with the orders appearing on the leaflets marking the beginning of the 11th month to the disturbances in the territories, Gaza Strip workers did not leave for their jobs in Israel this morning. Most of the schools are also closed. Disturbances and riots of dozens of stone throwers were dispersed in the neighborhoods of Gaza and Khan Yunus and in the Jabalyah refugee camp. So far there have been no reports of injuries during the dispersal of riots. The preventive curfew imposed on most of the refugee camps and several neighborhoods in the Gaza Strip is helping to maintain law and order today. [end recording]

Our correspondent 'Eran Ben-Porat reports that despite the strike in Judaea and Samaria, approximately 60 percent of the workers left for their jobs in Israel this morning. The municipalities of Ramallah, Al-Birah, Nabulus, and 'Anabta are on strike today, as is the public transportation in the Ramallah and Bethlehem districts. In Nabulus and the adjoining refugee camps the curfew continues.

1 Killed at Gaza Strip Border

TA0910151488 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] This report has just been received: A bus passenger arriving from Egypt tried to stab a security man at the Rafah border terminal. The security man, who was slightly wounded, was transferred to the Soroka medical center in Beersheba. The security man managed to shoot and kill the attacker. One of the tourists on the bus was slightly wounded in the incident. These are only initial details. We will update you as soon as we have additional information.

2 Killed in Hebron

TA0910181588 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Two villagers from Yattah in the Hebron District were killed during clashes with the IDF this evening. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that an IDF unit entered the village today as part of a special operation. Dozens of local residents attacked the soldiers as soon as they entered the village. Military sources have reported that the soldiers used their personal arms when they faced mortal danger. An IDF helicopter was rushed to the scene to evacuate the casualties, but they died as medical treatment was being administered. One of the victims was wanted by the security forces.

IDF Conducts Searches

TA1010090988 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Oct 88 pp 1, 10

[Report by Joel Greenberg]

[Excerpts] Kafr Ni'mah—Troops shot and killed two Palestinians and wounded 25 yesterday during a sweep of more than 30 West Bank villages to make arrests and clear roadblocks, flags and nationalist graffiti.

The search-and-arrest operations coincided with a general strike in the territories marking the start of the eleventh month of the uprising.

The IDF has in recent months carried out sweeps on strike days. During yesterday's operations, troops arrived in villages at dawn, carried out house-to-house searches for suspects, and ordered residents out to erase slogans and remove flags. In some areas, troops encountered nails strewn on roads, and in others, youths fled to surrounding countryside. [passage omitted]

Hours after troops completed a sweep at Kafr Ni'mah near Ramallah, Palestinian flags could be seen on phone lines and youths stoned Israeli cars. Troops shot and wounded three youths during the operation.

In other developments, security forces cut phone links to Nabulus, which is under a curfew imposed after heavy rioting Friday in which troops shot and killed four people.

Settlers at Pesagot near Al-Birah blocked the Jerusalem-Nabulus road last night, demanding more protection from the army after a petrol bomb was thrown at a bus near the settlement. Settlers said there had been three petrol bomb attacks recently. [passage omitted]

In the Gaza Strip four Gazans were shot and wounded yesterday and some 300,000 people were placed under curfew.

At least one fire bomb was hurled at an Israel military jeep in Jabaliyah yesterday morning, and Palestinian sources said the jeep caught fire. No one was injured. [passage omitted]

Gaza Strip Curfews Lifted

TA1010112088 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] The curfews imposed yesterday on Gaza Strip refugee camps and neighborhoods were lifted this morning. Many of the workers left for their jobs in Israel as usual.

Police Attacked in Jerusalem

TA1010133588 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] A firebomb and stones were thrown at a police squad near Bayt Hanina in the Jerusalem area this morning. Nobody was hurt. The policemen used tear gas to extricate themselves, and IDF forces were dispatched to assist them. Our correspondent Yosi Qoren reports that five suspects were detained.

Buses Attacked in Jerusalem

TA1010173388 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1700 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] A Molotov cocktail was thrown at an Egged No 25 bus about 30 minutes ago. The bus was traveling from the center of Jerusalem toward the Neve Ya'aqov neighborhood through the Shu'fat road. The bottle did not ignite, but two of the bus passengers were slightly injured by glass shards from smashed windshields. This was reported by our police affairs correspondent in Jerusalem Shlomi Stein.

Earlier today a No 23 bus in Jerusalem was attacked and its driver was slightly injured. There were several cases of disturbances in the center of the city today.

Arabs Wounded in W. Bank, Gaza

TA1010182288 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] An 18-year-old youth was shot and wounded in the head by an IDF soldier in the village of 'Attil near Tulkarm. Military sources told our correspondent Arye Gus that during a search in the village the youth attacked a soldier. The soldier then shot the youth, wounding him in the head. A military helicopter transferred the youth, in critical condition, to the Tel Hashomer Hospital.

A resident of the Al-Shati' refugee camp in the Gaza Strip was wounded today. Arab sources noted that another resident, of the Al-Rumayl neighborhood in Gaza, was also wounded today.

Arab Dies in Fight With Jew

TA1110102988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] An Arab worker from Gaza was killed this morning by a blow received during a fistfight with a Jewish youth. The fight started following a sharp verbal exchange at a construction site in Lod.

An Arab youth was wounded by IDF gunfire this morning during a riot at the outskirts of Bethlehem. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that riots broke out at the outskirts of Bethlehem and in the nearby Al-Duhayshah refugee camp after the body of a 17-year-old youth was brought to the area last night. The youth died last night from wounds suffered 2 weeks ago during a disturbance in the refugee camp. The IDF has imposed a curfew on the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp.

SLA Kills 2 'Terrorists' in S. Lebanon

TA1010102688 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Two terrorists were killed this morning in the security zone in southern Lebanon in a clash with soldiers of the South Lebanese Army [SLA]. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that an SLA patrol spotted a large explosive charge on the side of the road near the village of Al-'Ayshiyah. As they approached it, the soldiers saw a group of terrorists getting ready to detonate it. The SLA soldiers opened fire and, as mentioned before, two terrorists were killed. The SLA soldiers did not sustain any casualties.

USSR Reportedly To Supply Jordan With MiG-29's
JN1010193488 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 10 Oct 88 p 6

[Text] The Soviet Union has concluded an arms deal with Jordan worth $80 million per year. Under this deal, the Soviet Union will provide Jordan with air defense systems and MiG-29 Fulcrum fighter aircraft. By supplying Jordan with weapons, the Soviet Union has benefited from the stand of the United States, which did not respond to Jordan's demands.

Awqaf Minister Says W. Bank Funding To Continue
JN1010080288 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 10 Oct 88 p 1

[Text] Amman (J.T.)—Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Al-Khayyat said Sunday that Jordan would continue to spend $10 million annually on maintaining Islamic holy places in Jerusalem and the occupied West Bank.

In a statement to the JORDAN TIMES and AL-RA'Y, the minister said Jordan was committed to shouldering the expenses of the Awqaf council and its 3,500 employees.

In line with directives from His Majesty King Husayn, Awqaf and religious affairs employees were exempt from retirement from service which followed the kingdom's decision to sever formal links with the West Bank.

Al-Khayyat said Sunday such a Jordanian contribution in the West Bank "is vital to preserving Islamic culture and heritage" and noted that the Awqaf council contributes to maintaining 750 mosques in Jerusalem and the West Bank.

The minister said the 3,500 employees exempted from retirement included 1,800 Awqaf employees, 200 Islamic court staff and about 420 teachers.

Al-Khayyat said the exemption decision was aimed at averting any interference in the Awqaf and religious affairs and institutions by Israel's ministry of religious affairs.

The minister said a delay in carrying out renovations at the Dome of the Rock Mosque in Jerusalem was a result of the hard circumstances that the occupied territories are passing through.

Prime Minister Returns From Visit to UK
JN1110071888 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 11 Oct 88 p 1

[Text] Amman, PETRA—Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i yesterday returned to Amman from London after accompanying His Highness Crown Prince Hasan on a visit to the United Kingdom, during which he held talks with a number of British officials.

He was received at the airport by the deputy prime minister and education minister and a number of ministers.

Monte Carlo: UAE Grants $100 Million in Aid
JN0810164288 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] A Jordanian official has stated that the UAE has decided to grant Jordan $100 million in aid. The official said this sum, which will arrive in Amman today, is aimed to raise Jordan's hard currency reserves, which have sharply declined over the past 2 years.

Amman Notes U.S. Immunity for Israeli Officials
JN0710132488 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Washington—The United States yesterday agreed to grant limited diplomatic immunity to 50 Israelis working in the Israeli Military Procurement Office. A State Department spokesman said that the immunity granted to these Israelis is known as consular immunity. It is less inclusive than full diplomatic immunity.

This decision follows an investigation carried out by the U.S. Justice Department in 1986 after U.S. accusations that a number of the employees of the Israeli Military Procurement Office illegally leaked technical information from U.S. companies on the production of cluster bombs.

3 Britons To Be Freed; U.S. Hostages by 8 Nov

NC0710153188 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] According to press reports in Beirut, the Lebanese capital, three Britons held as hostages in Lebanon will be released within 3 days. Among these is Terry Waite, envoy of the Anglican Church.

The reports add that the decision to restore diplomatic relations between Britain and Iran, which was adopted in principle last Friday, has greatly helped the efforts to release Terry Waite and his companions.

According the same reports, the American hostages in Lebanon will be released before the U.S. presidential election on 8 November.

Terry Waite To Be Freed

JN0710175288 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1726 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] The newspaper AL-ANWAR and the magazine AL-SHIRA' said in Beirut today that Terry Waite, envoy of the Anglican Church who was abducted in lebanon, will be freed in the near future, according to AL-SHIRA', and within 72 hours, according to the newspaper AL-ANWAR, which also said that Terry Waite was probably moved from his original detention center in Al-Biqa' to West Beirut to be released.

AL-ITTIHAD Cited on New U.S. Plan

JN1010081388 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0655 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 10 Oct (WAKH)—The United States has prepared a new plan to resolve the Lebanese crisis, break the current deadlock, and hold presidential elections within 2 months since the implementation of the 10-point agreement. The Abu Dhabi-based AL-ITTIHAD issued today cited a Western diplomatic source in Beirut as saying that an American envoy will soon present the plan to the Syrian leadership and Lebanese officials during an expected visit to Damascus and Beirut.

The U.S. plan calls for preventing the Lebanese national and Islamic resistance men from carrying out armed operations against Israel; appointing a new commander for the Southern Lebanese Army [SLA] to replace Brigadier General Antoine Lahd; merging the SLA with the Lebanese Army; and establishing a demilitarized border zone from the Palestinian border to Al-Zahrani with a 25 km depth to guarantee the security of the northern border of the Israeli entity.

The U.S. plan also calls for the deployment of UNIFIL together with the Lebanese Army up to the international border; the implementation of Security Council Resolution No. 425; the unconditional withdrawal of Israel's forces from the south; and the withdrawal of the Syrian forces from the Al-Awwali River in the south and from the coastal road, Beirut, and Al-Jabal to Al-Biqa' and considering this as a security zone for Syria in which the Syrian forces can deploy for security reasons.

The U.S. plan also calls for merging the governments of Dr Salim al-Huss and General Michel 'Awn in one government, appointing Samir Ja'ja', the commander of the Lebanese Forces militias, a minister in the government, and keeping Dr Al-Huss the prime minister.

The U.S. plan calls for disarming all the Palestinian camps, particularly the southern camps and concluding a new agreement instead of the Cairo agreement to organize Lebanese-Palestinian relations and the armed and civilian Palestinian presence in Lebanon.

In accordance with the articles of the U.S. plan, Kamil al-As'ad will be reelected the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies instead of Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and preparations should be made to elect a new president for the republic within a period that does not exceed 2 months since the implementation of the agreement.

The source said that if Syria agrees on the plan Washington will guarantee the plan and pressure Israel and its allies in East Beirut to implement it.

Al-Shar': No Alternative to Unification

NC0810120788 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' said today that there is no alternative to the unification of Lebanon, adding that partition is rejected. He noted that the obstruction of the presidential election process is an obstruction of Lebanese political life, which only serves to create a vacuum that will lead the country to partition. Al-Shar' made these statements during an interview with the Lebanese AL-HAWADITH magazine.

Asked about Syria's aspirations in Lebanon, he said: If Syria had wanted to turn Lebanon into a province, it would have done so during the past 13 years. Syria has not done this even though it has had many opportunities because it and President al-Asad, in particular, feel responsible for safeguarding Lebanon's unity and protecting its Arabism.

Al-Shar' added: The Syrian-U.S. agreement on a presidential candidate was in response to a request by the Lebanese Forces. However, the Forces backed down after Syria and the United States had reached agreement.

Links Hostages, Elections

NC0810194888 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has linked the U.S.-Syrian agreement on the Lebanese elections to the issue of the U.S. hostages in Lebanon.

In an interview with AL-ITTIHAD, he said progress in the hostage issue depends on Washington's ability to honor the agreement reached with Syria last month to support a conciliatory candidate to succeed former President al-Jumayyil. He added that both Damascus and Washington are capable of reaching an understanding on the need to bring about political reforms in Lebanon.

Views Hostages, Ties With U.S.

NC0810074988 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0652 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 8 Oct (MENA)—Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has expressed the hope that the United States will continue to abide by the agreement it reached with Syria regarding the Lebanese crisis. He noted that Syria and the United States are capable of reaching an understanding about the need to achieve political reforms in Lebanon.

In an interview with AL-ITTIHAD newspaper, published in Abu Dhabi today, the Syrian foreign minister asserted that Dr Salim al-Huss' government in Lebanon is the legitimate one in the true sense of the word because it is a transitional government, which was not dissolved constitutionally before the expiration of the term of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil.

He also emphasized his country's intention to pursue its efforts to ensure the release of the foreign hostages in Lebanon. Al-Shar' voiced his hope that the ongoing dialogue between the Untied States and Syria will lead to bilateral cooperation in the political and economic fields, noting that Syrian-U.S. relations could be better than they are now, provided there is a genuine desire on the part of Washington.

Al-Huss on French Initiative, Federation Plan

NC0710152088 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1415 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss received at 9 o'clock this morning French ambassador to Lebanon Paul Blanc. Following the 1 and ½ hour long meeting, the French ambassador declared that it was better to work quietly nowadays, while the prime minister declared that he had discussed with the French ambassador the current developments that were taking place on the Lebanese scene, plus the Lebanese Government's stand concerning the French initiative in Lebanon, which stated that the international forces should control the security of the presidential election session.

We would like, Dr al-Huss added, to clear things out concerning the French concern. The reasons for not having presidential elections are not due to security matters dealing with the surroundings of the parliament place building, but it has to do with not agreeing yet on the expected president. Dr al-Huss went on, saying that in case a settlement had been achieved on the future president, then the place issue and its safety would be a minor problem. Dr al-Huss went on, saying in the current situation that Lebanon has been passing, it was impossible to elect a president and in this case electing a president would be a new start for a new problem instead of being a start for solving the Lebanese crisis.

The prime minister said there were mechanical difficulties concerning having forces from the United Nations to secure the safety of the presidential election session because this was an internal issue that had nothing to deal with the international nature of the UNIFIL. Finally, Dr al-Huss said that the [word indistinct] point for having presidential elections was to agree on an expected president, and this was what the Syrian-American settlement was based on, and it is our basic hope.

In response to a question concerning having a federal ruling system in Lebanon, Dr al-Huss said that this was the dream of those people who were looking for having a piece of Lebanon due to the partitioning fact that it was facing. So those people found it a good chance to start talking about a federal unity. Dr al-Huss considered federalism as a way of putting the partitioning of the sectarian distribution into effect in a final way, and this would be the final step towards destroying Lebanon.

In response to a question concerning Minister Birri's refusal for the French initiative, the French ambassador declared that Minister Birri was free to express his point of view in any way that he wished.

Rejects Federal Solution

NC1010131788 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss today attacked those who control the decisionmaking in the eastern area.

Responding to a question by the ASSOCIATED PRESS on his view on the federation plan propounded by Lebanese Forces commander Samir Ja'ja', in light of the existing situation in the eastern area, Prime Minister al-Huss said:

It is no secret that only one force is controlling the situation in the eastern areas. The leader of this force is behaving as if he is the sole decisionmaker in determining the national destiny. A few days ago, we heard him say that his plan calls for political decentralization or federation. We found his statement to be extremely dangerous in the present delicate phase in Lebanon's history. It is said that the title of a book is an indication of its contents.

As we try to read the book on the current phase, we discover that there is no relationship between the title of the book and its contents. It has clearly transpired that all the talk about presidential elections has been one

thing and the stand of those controlling the decisionmaking another. While everybody is preoccupied with the question of the presidential elections, those who control the decision are working to partition Lebanon under the cover of the federal plan.

It thus transpires that everything that has happened during recent developments leading to the dangerous crisis that is threatening the unity of Lebanon was not accidental but was designed to undermine Lebanon's unity. Therefore, the obstruction of the presidential elections and the formation of the so-called military government were part of this process.

Prime Minister al-Huss added: The plan was exposed by its advocate himself who, a few days ago, declared his commitment to a federal formula as a system for Lebanon. In a case like Lebanon's, only a thread separates federation and partition. This thread is bound to break even before it is knotted.

We equate federation with partition on the basis of the following considerations:

1. The adoption of the principle of political decentralization or federalism constitutes a step in the direction of dismantling the existing unity, on which Lebanon has been established since it came into being. Lebanon's destruction will be completed by taking a step in the same direction in the future.

2. A federal formula would constitute a means to institutionalize the sectarian separation in Lebanon and would, consequently, close the door forever to the return of national cohesion, without which there can be no homeland or stability. The federal formula would translate into the political decentralization of areas under the yoke of sectarian separation. It would further deepen the economic, social, political, and cultural differences between areas and sects and would make it impossible to restore the state of unity and national cohesion, and [word indistinct].

Last but not least, it should be clear to everyone that political decentralization or federalism will not be, as some people imagine, a doorway to ending the state of war; it will rather be an opening to ignite an endless war between the areas. We challenge the advocates of federalism and partition to chart for us the map of their plan and to declare the borders of their cantons. They will not succeed in doing so without raising a thousand and one questions about the borders which separate one canton from another. We are confident that the mere presentation of the issue on this level would constitute a starting point for the outbreak of endless wars over the issues of localities, roads, villages, towns and hills.

On this account, we challenge the advocates of partition or federalism to chart for us the plan for a geographically separated Lebanon, in accordance with the principle of federalism or partition as they imagine, and to tell us next how they can implement this plan. If they do so, the people will see that their plan is for a 100-year war, and, therefore, we reject and combat it.

In light of the stand adopted by the decisionmakers in the eastern areas which calls for separating Lebanon by federalism—a plan to prolong the war—we perceive that it is our right to ask the leaders who have faith in Lebanon's unity to raise their voices to reiterate their commitment to the unity of this homeland's fate, which should be one and united. Silence over the ongoing events which are aimed against Lebanon's unity and presence is no longer accepted or understood. This silence entails historic responsibilities and the court of history shows no mercy.

Iraq's Ramadan Supports 'Awn Government

NC0910085888 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tahir Yasin Ramadan has stressed that Major General Michel 'Awn is the legitimate head of the Lebanese Government, and that Salim al-Huss' government has no legal standing because it had resigned and its resignation was accepted.

Ramadan described interference in Lebanon's affairs as an aggressive action against the Arab nation. He called on the Arab states to take a stand similar to that of Iraq.

Ramadan Statement 'Astonishing'

NC0910091688 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] A Lebanese Government source has stated the following in reply to the statement by Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan on the government situation in Lebanon:

The statement made by Taha Yasin Ramadan on the government situation in Lebanon is astonishing, incorrect, and rejected. The strangest thing in this statement is that it calls for noninterference in the affairs of Lebanon when Ramdan himself has taken a stand against the legitimate government of Lebanon on the basis of efforts by him which have no connection with the legal, constitutional, or political reality in Lebanon. We who are concerned know better.

We regret that Ramadan has not given a true picture of the situation. The conflict is not over the legitimacy of one of two governments but over two plans. It is a conflict over one plan based on adherence to Lebanon's unity and Arabism and another plan aimed at dividing Lebanon under the cover of Federation. We doubt that the Iraqi official supports the partitionist plan, which Israel has dreamt up and is still hoping to realize.

If the stand adopted by Ramadan is governed by considerations connected with settling regional scores, we hope he will spare Lebanon more misery and suffering by

looking somewhere else to conduct or detonate the conflict. It is hoped that all Arab confrontation resources will be mobilized where they should be—toward resisting the Zionist danger to the Arab nation. Lebanon now stands in the forefront in this regard.

Rabin Reportedly Visits East Beirut

JN0910200288 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 8 Oct 88 pp 1, 22

[Excerpts] Beirut—Karim Paqraduni, deputy commander of the Lebanese Forces, has called for Arab and international supervision of the presidential elections in Lebanon. In a statement to AL-SIYASAH, he expected Damascus and Washington to agree on a new presidential candidate other than Mikhail Dahir. Meanwhile, AL-SIYASAH has learned that Yitzhaq Rabin, the Zionist enemy's war minister, spent 12 hours in East Beirut during which he met with influential Arab personalities. [passage omitted]

In his statement to AL-SIYASAH, Paqraduni urged Arabs to intervene in Lebanon to speed up the election of a new president so that Lebanon will not turn into another Palestine. He also called for completing the election of a president of the republic and electing a speaker for the Chamber of Deputies under Arab and international supervision. He warned that time is not on Lebanon's side. Paqraduni affirmed the presence of a political and strategic alliance between the Lebanese Forces and Major General Michel 'Awn. He pointed out that he expects a new Syrian-U.S. agreement on the selection of a new candidate for the Lebanese presidency other than Mikhail Dahir.

On the other hand, AL-SIYASAH has learned that Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin paid a secret visit to East Beirut where he spent 12 hours at the Dallas hotel. During the visit, he contacted influential personalities whose names are not yet known. AL-SIYASAH has also learned that the Bkirki meeting held by Christian deputies 3 days ago decided to dispatch a delegate to Damascus carrying the names of five presidential candidates so the Syrian capital can choose two of them and the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies may elect either one in a democratic atmosphere. [passage omitted]

Sfayr Authorized To Choose President

NC1010195788 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Christian deputies who met in Bkirki this evening authorized Patriarch Nasrallah Sfayr to negotiate as soon as possible until an agreement is reached on a president to be elected by the Chamber of Deputies.

Deputy Speaker Albert Mukhaybir said that the conferees pledged to adhere to the outcome of efforts made by the Maronite patriarch to end the crisis involving the election of a new president. This matter is so urgent that the deputies decided to confess their feelings to His Beatitude that he alone can express their ideas and principles.

In answering a question, Mukhaybir said: We are very far from suggesting names because our national aim does not accept such under these circumstances.

Asked whether the patriarch was authorized to choose a president, Mukhaybir said the deputies unanimously authorized Patriarch Sfayr to do this and that he will act on this basis.

Mukhaybir denied that there is an intention to send an envoy to Damascus. This meeting of Christian deputies lasted 2 hours and 45 minutes and was attended by 29 deputies.

Lahd Reportedly To Proclaim Independent State

NC0810121588 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] According to press reports today, agent Antoine Lahd will officially proclaim a free Lebanon state in the so-called border strip, which is under his control. According to these reports, Jazzin District will be kept out of this statelet and Marj 'Uyun will be made its capital. The reports say that the proclamation of this entity awaits the failure of new U.S. efforts to elect a president of the Republic.

This formula, which carries with it a new danger supplementing the internal danger to the safety of Lebanon and its land, people, and institutions, was reached in the wake of a series of meetings that Antoine Lahd held with Israeli officials, including Uri Lubrani, coordinator of Israeli-Lebanese activities, whose office was reopened in the eastern area. Lahd's meetings also included General Ze'ev Zakharin, commander of the Israeli liaison unit in the border area. The reports further say that following Lebanon's fragmentation into statelets, one of this separatist entity's first actions will be to ask the UN forces to leave the border area for good. Force will be used, if necessary, particularly after Israel recognizes this statelet.

This statelet would encompass one-tenth of Lebanese territory and from Al-Naqurah in the west to Shab'a in the east.

This grave event is expected to take place within weeks or less, according to the same reports. The credibility of these reports rests with AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI, which is closely connected with the Lebanese Forces, which are led by Samir Ja'ja'.

The statement which Ja'ja' made to France-Inter Radio yesterday is not unconnected with what is being planned in the occupied border strip by Antoine Lahd in coordination with the Israelis.

After the recent military events in the eastern area, Ja'ja' expressed readiness to establish relations with Israel while refusing to establish special or other relations with Syria. He justified his cooperation with Israel as a means to liberate Lebanon from what he termed Syrian dangers. After describing Lebanon's Arabism as a thorny and complicated issue with philosophical backgrounds, intellectual dimensions, and social and political reflections, Ja'ja' spoke again about relations with Israel.

Answering a question about the unsuccessful attempt by late President Bashir al-Jumayyil in this respect, he said: I said nothing specific about Israel. However, I am proposing to act on this general principle.

Lahd Position in Shwayya Attacked; Casualties
NC0910194288 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1900 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] The National Lebanese Resistance Front has issued a statement, saying that the group of Martyr Mikha'il Hanna Ibrahim used rockets and machineguns to attack an agent Lahd position in Shwayya at 0130 today. A 30-minute clash ensued between the attackers and agents. The statement noted that the position received direct hits. The attackers destroyed a machinegun, and the men operating it were either killed or wounded.

The Resistance Front's statement noted that the occupation forces immediately reinforced the agents' position with a tank and two armored cars and raked the area with artillery, machineguns, and flares.

Amal, Hizballah Clash in Al-Biqa'; 1 Killed
NC1010101188 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Clashes occured between Amal and Hizballah personnel in the villages of Suhmur and Yuhmur in western Al-Biqa' yesterday. A member of Hizballah was killed. Rockets and machineguns were used in the clashes which lasted an hour. Immediately afterward, both parties erected armed checkpoints as Syrian forces in the area were put on alert. The two sides are now holding meetings sponsored by the Syrians to eliminate the tension.

Ulema Decide To Withdraw Gunmen After Clash
NC1010132388 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] In the wake of the clashes which broke out between Amal and Hizballah personnel in Suhmur and Yuhmur in western Al-Biqa' last night, the area's ulema held a meeting this morning. They decided to withdraw all gunmen and eliminate all shows of force. The Amal Movement handed 'Ali Milhim over to the committee which was later formed. It should be recalled that the clashes left Fida' Madi [not further identified] dead.

Israeli Patrol Attacked by Resistance Forces
NC1010113988 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1030 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] We received the following communique a short while ago from the National Lebanese Resistance Front Command:

On the morning of Monday, 10 October 1988, groups from the Martyrs of the Operation to Destroy the Agent Lahd Radio, from the Martyr George Nasrallah Unit, attacked an enemy mechanized patrol comprising two tracked vehicles and an Israeli intelligence vehicle preceded by a number of infantry. The patrol was en route from Al-'Ayshiyah to Al-Rayhan. At 0845, the first group detonated 30 kgs of TNT attached to two artillery shells when the infantry arrived. Four were killed or wounded. At the same time, the second group attacked the patrol with machineguns and rockets. A grinding battle ensued lasting more than 30 minutes. The heroic fighters destroyed the two tracked vehicles and the Israeli intelligence vehicle.

At 0900, the enemy brought in reinforcements supported by helicopters. The hostile forces landed in the Tanturah area near Al-Rayhan. A clash ensued with the heroes and the fighting continues to this minute. The resistance artillery is shelling enemy concentrations in the Al-Rayhan barracks and the 'Aramta junction. We pledge to our martyrs that we will continue the march until all the homeland's soil is liberated.

Syrians Fire Missile at Israeli Drone 6 Oct
NC0710144388 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] AFP has quoted a Lebanese security source in Rashayya as reporting that the Syrian forces stationed in Al-Biqa' fired a surface-to-air SAM-6 missile at an Israeli drone yesterday. The source added that the Soviet-built missile was fired at approximately 1130 from a Syrian Army Base near 'Ayn Kafr Zahad village at a pilotless MK reconnaissance plane. The source could not confirm whether the plane was hit by the rocket.

Israel had earlier announced that an Israeli drone had been destroyed 30 km to the south of Haifa in northern Israel as the result of a technical failure.

Syrians Down Israeli Reconnaissance Plane
NC0710171388 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] According to a report from Al-Biqa', a Syrian SAM-6 missile shot down an Israeli MK reconnaissance plane over the area today. Israel admitted that a plane of this type was downed but claimed that it fell south of Haifa.

It should be recalled that this is the second plane of this type shot down over Lebanon. Amal Movement antiaircraft guns downed a similar plane in southern Lebanon yesterday.

'Zionist-U.S. Drone' Shot Down on 8 Oct

JN0810110488 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1048 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Brother citizens, we just received the following:

The Al-Quds radio correspondent in militant southern Lebanon has stated the following: At 1200 today, a Zionist-U.S. drone was shot down over Al-Hammudiyah area in southern Lebanon. Zionist helicopters are overflying the militant southern Lebanon in an attempt to retrieve the debris of the espionage drone.

Israeli Aircraft Fly Over Sidon, Camps

NC0810115488 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Israeli warplanes flew over Sidon and nearby camps this morning, breaking the sound barrier and drawing antiaircraft fire.

Israeli Mock Raids Over Sidon; Tanker Searched

NC0810132188 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] A formation of Israeli warplanes flew over Sidon and the south at low altitude at noon today. The planes carried out a series of mock raids over the area to the east of Sidon, and drew antiaircraft fire.

In another development, eyewitnesses have reported that an Israeli gunboat intercepted an oil tanker off the Al-Zahrani port at 1215 today and forced it to change course. The tanker was then searched for over 1 hour, before being allowed to continue its voyage.

Israeli Aircraft Fly Over Sidon, Camps 9 Oct

NC1010061188 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0315 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] According to reports from the South, Israeli warplanes flew low-level reconnassance missions over Sidon and the Palestinian camps last night.

Fly Over Al-Nabatiyah

NC1010091788 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0850 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] The areas of Al-'Ayshiyah and Al-Rayhan in the South came under a rocket attack from Al-Qir'awn Dam today. The attack comes after a clash between a South Lebanese Army [SLA] patrol and a group of gunmen in Al-Rayhan this morning in which two gunmen were killed.

Meanwhile, extensive flights by Israeli aircraft were observed over the Al-Nabatiyah area.

Al-Shar' Meets Murphy, Perez de Cuellar, Others

JN0610165188 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1555 GMT 6 Oct 88

[Text] New York, 6 Oct (SANA)—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in New York last night. The meeting was attended by Ahmad Fathi al-Masri, Syria's permanent representative at the United Nations, and Marrack Goulding, UN undersecretary general for special political affairs.

The meeting revolved around the situation in the region and the role of the United Nations on the international arena and its efforts to find just solutions to the contemporary regional issues.

Al-Shar' has also met with Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, in the Syrian mission in New York. Diya'ullah al-Fattal, assistant foreign minister, attended. The meeting dealt with the situation in Lebanon.

The foreign minister has also met with Turkish Foreign Minister Yilmaz. The meeting revolved around the means to bolster Syrian-Turkish bilateral relations and the situation in the region.

The foreign minister also met with Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah. They discussed relations between the two fraternal states and the situation in the region.

Returns From UN Talks

JN0710194688 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' this evening returned to Damascus from New York after heading the Syrian Arab Republic's delegation to the 43d session of the United Nations General Assembly. There he met with a number of foreign and Arab foreign ministers and delivered our country's speech before the United Nations General Assembly.

Al-Shar' Says U.S. 'Committed' to Agreement

LD0810091288 Kuwait KUNA in English 0810 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 8 (KUNA)—Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' was quoted Saturday as saying that the U.S. is committed to the Syrian-U.S. agreement concluded during the American envoy Richard Murphy's visit to Damascus last month.

In an interview with "AL-QABAS" newspaper conducted in New York, Shar' said U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and his assistant Murphy have assured him that the U.S. is still committed to the agreement reached with Syria on Lebanon. He said this agreement is not only on nominating Mikha'il Dahir to the Presidency, but also on political and constitutional reforms that are to be introduced following the elections.

The Syrian minister said those who are betting on delaying the Lebanese presidential elections until after U.S. elections next month would be disappointed because "the agreement is between countries and not individuals, and it would not be easy for the next American administration to abandon it because this would affect the American-Syrian relations and would be of adverse reflections on the American policy in the Arab world."

Shar' described his meeting with Shultz as positive and that viewpoints agreed on rejecting the partition of Lebanon, national reconciliation and the need to hold the presidential elections as soon as possible. On the Sudanese call for a meeting for the Arab foreign ministers to discuss the situation in Lebanon, Shar' said Syria welcomes any Arab effort to help Lebanon remain unified.

In an answer to a question, Shar' described the statements made by American officials, including that made by Shultz on the political legitimate rights for the Palestinian people as positive, but said this position is still to be clarified.

On Syria's position toward an independent Palestinian state or a Palestinian government in exile, that might be declared by the PLO, Shar' said Syria support a Palestinian independent state, but warned that if such a step would deepen the inter-Palestinian division it would be negative.

He added that "We have the impression from the different statements made by a number of Palestinian leaders that the declaration of a provisional government or a government in exile would fuel differences and would be a controversial issue."

Al-Shar': 'Ball Is Now in the American Court'

JN1010163488 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 8 Oct 88 pp 1, 21

[Text] United Nations—Exclusive: Syria's Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' says the ball is now in the American court. Al-Shar' was replying to a question on the slow pace in the improvement of relations with Washington put to him by AL-ITTIHAD at UN Headquarters yesterday. These relations hinge on whether Washington will show enough wisdom to curb the influence of the Zionist lobby on its foreign policy and honor its side of the bargain with Syria on the compromise Lebanese presidential candidate, Mikha'il Dahir. Al-Shar' emphasized that the subject of the American hostages in Lebanon and U.S.-Syrian cooperation on Lebanon's presidential vote are unrelated.

Asked about his government's perception of short-term relations with the United States, Al-Shar' said: We want to see the Americans show deeper understanding, since good bilateral relations will be good not only for the United States and Syria but for regional peace as well. He hoped the ongoing contacts will produce political and economic cooperation. Given a genuine desire on the part of the United States, bilateral ties could be better. The special U.S.-Israel relationship plays a negative role in this regard, Al-Shar' noted.

Last week's meeting between himself and Shultz, Al-Shar' said, resulted in mutual understanding in light of visits to Damascus by American officials. There have been high-level, intensive contacts between Syria and the United States over the past few months, leading to mutual understanding. His country would like to see a clear, full-blooded American position on the Arab-Zionist conflict, said the Syrian foreign minister.

He added: We would like the United States to come out strongly in support of related UN resolutions. The two sides, he said, can work out a common understanding on political reforms and national reconciliation in Lebanon. Toward that end, we have made some efforts, and Syria hopes Washington will honor what has been agreed upon on the Lebanese crisis, Al-Shar' said.

Commenting on a U.S. State Department spokesman's statement following the Shultz-Al-Shar' meeting, the Syrian foreign minister said there is no disagreement on key issues in Lebanon. The agreement, however, did not cover much ground. The minister reiterated that Al-Huss' government is the legal one in every sense of the word, since it was still in office as a constitutional, interim government when Al-Jumayyil's term ended. Michel 'Awn's government failed to fulfil the requirement of consultations with Parliament before the president's term expired, noted Al-Shar'.

The move made Al-Huss' government even more legitimate, having been the outcome of a national dialogue in Lusanne, and as such representing the overwhelming Lebanese majority. By contrast, Michel 'Awn's government was born at the 11th hour from a decision lacking popular support.

On the question of the hostages, Al-Shar' said his government is continuing efforts to obtain their release. Asked to comment on the installation of a new American ambassador in Damascus, Al-Shar' said the envoy promised to work for better bilateral ties and understanding. Syria is happy to see an American ambassador back in Damascus.

Soviet contacts have not and will not cause the Syrians to panic, Al-Shar' said. The emigration of Soviet Jews to the Zionist entity, he added, runs counter to human rights since they go to supplant Palestinians. The Soviet Jews have a state and identity of their own, and they have not been forced out of the Soviet Union, whereas the Palestinians are being made to leave their homeland by coercive, terrorist measures.

Al-Shar' said Mideast peace does not seem to figure on the agendas of the Israeli and American elections. This applies equally to the Republican and Democratic candidates. And if peace figures at all it is to attract the Jewish vote. It is now clearer than ever that far from advancing the cause of Mideast peace, the special American-Israeli relationship is a stumbling block to a just, acceptable regional settlement.

Reportage on Visit of Ethiopia's Mengistu

Arrives 10 Oct

JN1010165888 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Excerpts] At 1600 today, Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council in Ethiopia, and his wife arrived in Damascus on a friendly and state visit to the Syrian Arab Republic. His Excellency President and Mrs al-Asad led the welcoming party at Damascus International Airport.

Also on hand were Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah; Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi; and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', head of the escort mission. [passage omitted]

The presidents then drove in an official motorcade to the Tishrin Palace, where the Ethiopian leader will be staying. He is accompanied by a delegation comprising senior Ethiopian officials.

Meets Al-Asad

JN1010190888 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] At 1800 today, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council in Ethiopia, began talks in closed session at the Presidential Palace. They talked about bilateral relations, explored ways to cement and expand them in various spheres, and exchanged expertise. They discussed Arab developments and the situation in Africa with special emphasis on the Horn of Africa. The leaders also took up international developments.

The Ethiopian leader expressed appreciation for Syria's accomplishments and its revolutionary, progressive experience under President al-Asad's leadership. He said liberation movements around the world have benefited from the Syrian experience and are scrutinizing it for inspiration.

Gives Banquet Speech

JN1110070088 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2130 10 Oct 88

["Text" of speech delivered by Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam at a dinner banquet hosted in his honor by President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus on 10 October—read by announcer]

[Text] Dear Brother, His Excellency Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and chairman of the steadfastness and confrontation front. Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to express my heartfelt pleasure for the warm cordial reception and generous hospitality accorded to me and my comrades since our arrival in beautiful Damascus on the first official visit to the Syrian Arab Republic, which has a great and deep-rooted history.

Your Excellency, Ethiopia and the Middle East countries are not only tied by geographical location and relations of neighbourliness, but also by ties of history, culture, religion, trade, and other fields. Ethiopian-Syrian relations are based on this long history. Among the facts that remind us of the deep-rooted basis for relations between our two countries in particular, is the entering of Christianity into Ethiopia that is linked with Syria's ancient history, and the two peoples' honorable and similar struggle against foreign invasions that they have been exposed to at different times.

In this regard, the Ethiopian people are aware of, and highly appreciate, the Syrian people's great, heroic struggle to destroy the Turkish Ottoman colonialism which they were exposed to from 1916 until the end of World War I, and their struggle against the European colonialism and persecution which replaced the Ottoman colonialism. In light of this, it should be recalled that Ethiopia was one of the first countries to recognize Syria as a state following its independence in April 1946.

We highly appreciate the Syrian people's activities due to your far-sightedness and the strong leadership of the Syrian Ba'th Party to hasten the country's economic and social progress, the tangible results it has achieved, and the role Syria plays in its capacity as a great base for the Arab peoples struggle for freedom and democracy. We also appreciate Syria's firm and sound stands at the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, and other forums.

Although the two countries' relations have such a deep-rooted and similar history of struggle against colonialism and imperialism, we all know that our countries and peoples were not able to become closer and establish cooperation due to certain factors that existed before the outbreak of the Ethiopian revolution. With the eruption of revolution, intensified efforts were exerted to send a high-level delegation to this country to explain the objectives of our revolution and begin a new chapter of relations between our peoples.

Since then, and according to the dialogues and contacts held on various occasions on different levels, we were able to establish diplomatic relations between our countries in 1980. However, we feel that, in light of the appropriate circumstances of our history and neighbourliness, relations between our countries or with the other Middle East countries, should have been further promoted to serve the joint interests and prosperity of our peoples.

Your Excellency, the popular Ethiopian revolution, which is over 14 years old, has made its objective the removal of the hideous exploitative system which our people have been exposed to for centuries, and to build a society permeated by justice, freedom, and prosperity. In light of this, during its militant stages our revolution was able to totally destroy the feudal system which was the source of our people's exploitation. Several radical measures were taken to change the old reactionary relations of production and replace them with new progressive ones.

We also were able to entrench a new political system by establishing an elite political organization guaranteeing the people's direct authority for the first time in the long history of our people, who did not have democratic traditions and organized political participation. Thus, appropriate circumstances were created to liberate our people from backwardness, achieve swift economic and social progress in which our people consciously participated, expand and guarantee practical equality among nationalities, and apply the freedom of expression and religion. In general, after getting rid of the feudal government, the Ethiopian society is now in a transitional stage through which it is building the democratic revolution and setting the basis for the socialist system.

The progress that has been achieved by our revolution while carrying out these historic tasks and scoring these victories was not made without facing obstacles and challenges. In fact, our revolution has waged bitter struggles that necessitated immense sacrifices. In this regard, we cannot downplay the obstacles created by our enemies at each stage, aimed at expressing hostility toward our popular objectives, the problems of nature that we have frequently faced, and the effects of these problems on our development plans.

Needless to say, our national development efforts, which we are exerting for the sake of our people's peace, freedom, and prosperity, will not have considerable results without guaranteed regional and world peace and without a prevailing spirit of good neighborliness and common cooperation.

We are confident that relations between our two countries, which are now moving to a new chapter, will move, thanks to the appropriate circumstances that have been created for them, to lasting peace and cooperation in the development fields. Based on this, our foreign policy is based on the charters of the United Nations and the OAU, and on the principles of the Nonaligned Movement regarding equality among all states, particularly

toward the Arab and neighboring states, without interference in the others' domestic affairs according to mutual respect for sovereignty. Our policy is also aimed at establishing relations to achieve the common progress and prosperity for our peoples.

The efforts that we have exerted at different international and continental forums since the outbreak of our revolution, and our efforts to promote and improve relations with the neighboring states and with the region's states are clear evidence of this. In this regard, especially regarding our relations with Somalia and Sudan, various useful steps were taken in the recent past. While peace and stability continued to be disrupted in Africa due to the wars that resulted from the problem between Ethiopia and Somalia, the peace currently prevailing in the region, has made the so-called Horn of Africa problem a thing of the past thanks to the decision made by the two governments without foreign interference, through their own efforts, and through the agreement they reached.

Regarding the improvement of our relations with Sudan, the two sides hold contacts on various levels to study the source of our differences, and solutions to them. The efforts that have so far been exerted are encouraging. We believe that cordial relations and cooperation with other countries in our region, particularly with Egypt, the YAR, and other Middle East countries, will contribute to the mutual benefit of our peoples and guarantee peace and security in the region. On the other hand, through our efforts to improve neighborly relations between us, we have a strong desire to remove the factors of tension prevailing in our region and to achieve peace in it.

At various forums, Ethiopia has always supported the struggle to achieve a just and lasting peace regarding the problem of the Middle East peoples and Palestine, which has long continued to be a source of conflict in our region. In this regard, I would like to affirm that Ethiopia will spare no effort to contribute to the call for an international conference with the participation of all parties concerned to settle this problem. While we are all pleased with the end of the Iraq-Iran war, which caused immense human and material losses during the past 8 years without the two sides going to the negotiating table, we are certain that the benefits of ending the war are not confined to the two peoples, but will also contribute to entrenching regional and world peace.

In the southern part of our continent, the struggle that is being waged to destroy the fascist regime and to achieve the independence of Namibia, has been further entrenched to a point where the Pretorian Government was forced to join negotiations. It is encouraging that the negotiations among the parties concerned has resulted in the withdrawal of South African forces from Angola. Moreover, steps are being taken to achieve the independence of Namibia. However, it is necessary to escalate struggle to achieve the independence of Namibia, guarantee the security of Angola, and establish a democratic system on the rubble of the fascist regime in South Africa.

In general, the struggle to guarantee world peace and security, the progress it has achieved, the current trend to end the arms race, and the trend toward peaceful dialogue, the reduction of arms, and cooperation, are supported by the peace-loving peoples in the world and instill hope in us.

Your Excellency, when we examine our countries' policies, their historic relations, and their identical stands on regional and world issues, we realize that there are several objective and appropriate circumstances that would achieve a greater rapprochement between our peoples and countries. Also, we believe there are many fields in which we can exploit our natural resources for the mutual benefit and prosperity of our peoples, according to the level of our social and economic progress and the objectives on which we focus our attention.

In light of this, and since the sound step toward the mutual benefit of our peoples lies in rapprochement and cooperation, I would like to seize this opportunity to stress that we have spared no effort to continuously promote and expand relations between our countries.

Finally, I kindly request you to drink to the continued good health and long life of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, to the promotion of cordial relations between our countries, and to the friendship between the Syrian and Ethiopian peoples, their peace and prosperity. Thank you.

Al-Asad Delivers Speech

JN1110092588 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2119 GMT 10 Oct 88

["Text" of speech delivered by President Hafiz al-Asad at a dinner banquet in honor of visiting Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam in Damascus on 10 October—read by announcer]

[Text] Honorable President Mengistu Haile Mariam, honorable Mrs Mengistu Haile Mariam, Ethiopian friends, ladies and gentlemen: I am pleased that Syria's guest today is President Mengistu Haile Mariam, leader of the Ethiopian revolution. I warmly greet him and his wife and the members of the Ethiopian delegation, and through them greet the friendly Ethiopian people and their struggle for a better life, social justice, socialism, and consolidation of African unity.

We, in Syria, followed with sympathy the Ethiopian people's revolution against backwardness and reactionism and their confrontation of the imperialist schemes. We have seen in the Ethiopian developments during the past 15 years clear signs of a march of progress and national pride, and efforts to establish relations with

Ethiopia's neighbors on sound bases. If nature has created some difficulties and obstacles along the road of progress and prosperity in your country, we trust that the Ethiopian people can, through their efforts to alleviate the impact of these difficulties and obstacles, continue their march with increasing success under the leadership of President Mengistu Haile Mariam.

We look forward to developing relations between Syria and Ethiopia. I very much hope that this visit—the first by an Ethiopian president to Syria—will be the beginning of a stage of closer relations and fruitful bilateral cooperation that will benefit both our peoples and serve our joint aims. We hope that our effort to bolster Syrian-Ethiopian relations will support our effort to promote Arab-African cooperation and back up Afro-Asian solidarity.

Our present meeting in Damascus is, among other things, an Arab-African meeting. It is similarly an Afro-Asian meeting. Whenever we redouble our efforts to bolster Arab-African cooperation and Afro-Asian solidarity, we in both continents become stronger and more capable of foiling the schemes of colonialism and imperialism. Asia and Africa are twin brothers in their suffering from colonialism and imperialism and in combating them, and in their struggle to be liberated from the traces of the colonialist decades. Most of the problems from which the two continents' states are suffering are inherited from these decades.

The colonialists, who were forced to leave as a result of the African and Asian peoples' resistance, left only after looting the wealth of the countries they colonialized, leaving behind backwardness, poverty, and factors of division. They left after planting military bases in the two continents and satellite regimes in some countries, the most dangerous of which are the racist regimes they created in Asia and Africa. By these I mean the racist Zionist regime, represented by Israel, and the apartheid regime in South Africa. Both became tools of expansion and repression and a source of danger to the countries surrounding them.

As a result of the similarity between them in origin, ideology, and aim, they were linked with the closest of ties and areas of bilateral cooperation were diversified. These included military cooperation as well as cooperation in the field of atomic research for military purposes.

You are aware of the southern African states' suffering from the presence of the racist Pretoria regime and this regime's hostile nature, as well as our region's suffering from the presence of racist Zionist Israel and its hostile nature. Syria, which resisted French colonialism for a quarter of a century and expelled it from its territory as a result of our people's struggle and sacrifices, soon found itself, at the outset of its independence, face to face with a colonialist settlement attempt by world Zionism, beginning with the occupation of a part of Palestine and expanding to the rest of Palestinian territory and neighboring Arab territories. All this was part of the Zionist scheme to set up the greater state of Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates.

Nevertheless, Israel continues to talk about peace. The peace concept to Israel and the forces supporting is that it should be safe and secure on the land it occupied through aggression. This means that the Arabs should submit to the fait accompli which Israel and its protectors are trying to entrench through threats, power, and pressure. In order to achieve more propitious circumstances for its movement toward its targets, Israel attempted to disrupt the Arab ranks, particularly the confrontational one. Within this framework, the Camp David accords were concluded. The initiators of these accords claimed that they are peace agreements.

However, what resulted from them was a fiercer continuation of aggression. Under the cover of these accords, Israel's aggressions on the Palestinian concentrations in Lebanon were repeated and Israel's fierceness in oppressing the Arab inhabitants of the occupied territories increased. Under the cover of these accords, Lebanon was invaded twice, Libya came under U.S. aggression, and Tunisia was raided by Israel. In addition, Israel further adhered to occupation and rejected all serious efforts to make peace. Peace cannot be achieved with such a crooked Zionist concept. Peace is basically justice, recognition of people's rights, and absence of aggression and occupation. This is the peace we are struggling to achieve.

The road to this aspired peace is the implementation of relevant UN resolutions through an authoritative international peace conference under the aegis of the United Nations, to be attended by all concerned parties, including the PLO. Otherwise, and unless Israel withdraws from the occupied Arab territory and the Palestine question is solved in a manner guaranteeing the rights of its people, peace cannot be established in this area because the absence of a just peace means the continuation of aggression and occupation, and this is something we reject and resist.

Accordingly, the resistance of occupation and aggression will continue in the Syrian Arab Golan, the Palestinian Arab territory, and southern Lebanon. This resistance is a natural outcome of the continuation of occupation. Arab resistance of occupation has certainly not reached its climax yet, but it is at a significant level of struggle. We still have ample time and place.

The Israeli interference in Lebanon is the reason for the continuation of the abnormal situation from which this sisterly country is suffering. This Israeli interference is part of the policy of hegemony and fragmentation of the Arab homeland. Following its invasion of Lebanon in 1982, Israel tried to impose on it a humiliating agreement robbing it of its sovereignty and turning it into an Israeli protectorate. When the attempt failed due to the

Arab steadfastness forces' resistance of the invasion of Lebanon and the thwarting of its aims, and in view of the Lebanese people's resistance of the invaders, Israel concentrated its efforts to partition Lebanon through its tools there.

We are confident that this attempt will also be doomed to failure as the previous attempt failed, thanks to the awareness of the overwhelming majority of the Lebanese and their resistance of Israel's aims. Syria will continue to support this Lebanese majority and extend its hand to the fraternal Lebanese people in order to back their efforts to liberate their land from Israeli occupation and achieve national reconciliation for the sake of preserving the unity of Lebanon—territory and people—and its independence and Arab affiliation.

Mr President, our two countries are linked by historical ties with numerous positive signs. We wish to have stronger and deeper present and future ties and I believe that your visit is a good opportunity to achieve this target.

I again welcome you and your wife and delegation, wishing you a good stay in Syria. I hope you will convey our greetings and best wishes to the Ethiopian people. Ladies and gentlemen, may I request you to stand in salute of President Mengistu Haile Mariam and his wife, wishing them both continued good health and happiness. I also greet the Ethiopian people, wishing them progress and prosperity.

'Closed Session' Held

JN1110131988 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad held a meeting with [Ethiopian] President Mengistu Haile Mariam at 1100 today. The meeting was attended on the Ethiopian side by the delegation accompanying President Haile Mariam.

On the Syrian side the meeting was attended by Dr Wahib Tannus, member of Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command; Dr Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; Muhammad Gabbash, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform; Faruq al-Shar', minister of foreign affairs; Dr Muhammad Harbah, minister of interior; Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade; Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs; and Haydar Buzu, minister of social affairs and labor.

At 1200 today, President Hafiz al-Asad and his guest, President Haile Mariam, held a closed session, in which they continued the discussion of issues raised in the first closed session. Meanwhile, members of the two delegations continued the discussion of issues connected to improving bilateral relations and cooperation between Syrian and Ethiopia.

Afghanistan

Sharq, UN Officials Discuss Rocket Attacks

LD1010210888 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Prime Minister Muhammad Hasan Sharq today received General (Ravli Helminen) and His Exellency (Adnan Swan), who are in charge of the leadership of UNGOMAP [UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan]. The prime minister gave comprehensive information about the recent developments in the Repubic of Afghanistan. Talks covered the armed extremists' rocket attacks on Kabul and other cities since the signing of the Geneva accords, and the efforts of UNGOMAP for the implementation of the Geneva accords. The UNGOMAP leadership expressed its concern over the increased rocket attacks on Kabul and other areas of the Republic of Afghanistan, which have caused the deaths of many people.

Pakistani Charge Summoned for 1 Oct 'Violation'

LD0810182588 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] A source at the Afghan Foreign Ministry reports that the charge d'affaires of the Pakistan Embassy was summoned today to the Foreign Ministry.

The following points were conveyed to the envoy by the deputy head of the First Political Department: Despite repeated and persistent protests by the Republic of Afghanistan about explicit and clear violations by Pakistan of the provisions of the Geneva agreements, Pakistan continues its aggressions into Afghan territory. The country's security authorities report that 500 Pakistani militiamen armed with modern weapons crossed the border to join the (Granai) headquarters of the chief of an extremist group located in Oboband Mountain in the Shahr-e Safa District on 1 October 1988, to help the extremists engineer the fall of security posts and the garrision of Zabol.

The Afghan Government lodges a strong protest against this clear violation of Afghan territory by the Pakistani Armed Forces, and once again draws the attention of Pakistani authorities to their obligation under the Geneva agreements. The grave consequences of repeating such irresponsible actions will rest with the Pakistani authorities.

94th, 95th Notes Submitted to UN Mission

LD0810210388 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] The office in the Foreign Ministry for liaison with the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan [UNGOMAP] reports that this evening the Republic of Afghanistan submitted to the UNGOMAP office in Kabul its 94th note on Pakistan's violation of the provisions of the Geneva agreements. Full information about the circumstances, place, and date of the violation are given in the note.

According to another report, the 95th note of the Republic of Afghanistan on 12 violations by Pakistan of Article 2, Instrument I, was handed over this evening to the UNGOMAP office in Kabul. Complete information on the circumstances, place, and date of the violations are detailed in the note. It is requested that the incidents be investigated in line with Article 7, Instrument 4 of the Geneva accords and the findings be brought to the attention of the Republic of Afghanistan and to the representative of the UN secretary general.

96th Memorandum Submitted

LD0910175588 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] The Afghan Foreign Ministry UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan [UNGOMAP] coordination office reports that this evening the 96th Afghan note on Pakistan's flagrant violations of the provisions of the Geneva accords was handed over to UNGOMAP in Kabul.

In the note, accurate and comprehensive information was given about five cases of flagrant violation by Pakistan of Article 2, Document No 1 of the Geneva accords. It has been requested that the UNGOMAP assess Pakistan's violations and inform the Afghan side and the UN secretary general's envoy of the result as soon as possible.

Hikmatyar Says Attacks on Soviets To Continue

BK0810131088 Hong Kong AFP in English 1301 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Peshawar, Pakistan, Oct 8 (AFP)—Afghan rebel leader Gulbuddin Hikmatyar rejected on Saturday an appeal by Washington not to attack Soviet troops withdrawing from Afghanistan.

Mr Gulbuddin, leader of the fundamentalist Hezb-e Eslami guerrilla group, vowed at a press conference here that the mujahidin rebels would continue their attacks until the last Soviet soldier left Afghanistan.

The United States is the main suppliers of arms to the Afghan resistance.

Mr Gulbuddin said that "we never agree to advices from outside. The proof is that we did not agree to the Geneva accords."

He said that the U.N.-mediated April 14 Geneva peace accord between Afghanistan and Pakistan, which called for a Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, was not the solution to the problem.

The rebel chief, who is based in this Pakistani town near the Afghan border along with the other six Afghan guerrilla leaders in a seven-party alliance, said that Moscow should have a "direct dialogue with the Afghan mujahidin to end the issue."

Meanwhile the resistance's AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY (ANA) reported that 200 Vietnamese-trained Afghan commandos had been dispatched to different parts of Afghanistan to fight the rebels. [passage omitted]

'Foreign Observer' Killed During Group Clash

LD0810153088 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1330 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Disagreements and controversies have intensified among various groups, and each group is seeking revenge. The BIA states that Captain Esma'el, one of the Jamiyat group leaders in Herat Province, together with his personal guards, were attacked on 20 September and seriously injured. During this armed clash, four guards and also a foreign adviser accompanying him, were killed.

The report adds that this attack was organized by another Jamiyat group, among the supporters of Colonel Azizullah, brother of Sakhiyallah Ghuryani, who was killed some time ago.

Kabul Details Clashes With 'Extremists'

Operations in Badakhshan Area

LD0710154888 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Oct 88

[Excerpts] In inflicting crushing blows on the warmongering extremist groups, the country's Armed Forces yesterday crushed 183 of these criminals in the vicinity of Badakhshan Province, arrested 130 extremists, and seized their weapons.

BAKHTAR's military section reports that these enemies of the people's peace and tranquillity, who had been disrupting the peaceful life of our compatriots in Badakhshan Province by firing surface-to-surface missiles at residential areas and perpetrating subversive and terrorist acts, were punished for their evil deeds as a result of the full cooperation of the inhabitants. The report adds that four ringleaders of the Rabbani and Gulbuddin groups—(Qari Aman Gul), (Aref), (Abdul Ahad), and another person nicknamed (Zabet Zaman)—were among those arrested.

The report adds that this operation of the courageous Armed Forces against the armed extremist groups in the vicinity of Badakhshan Province is successfully continuing. [passage omitted]

An armed exremist group attached to the Gulbuddin band who were engaged in plunder along the Kabul-Nangarhar highway were crushed yesterday as a result of blows inflicted by the Armed Forces.

According to a BAKHTAR military section report, as a result of this combat operation carried out in Sorowbi District, (Muhammad Anwar) and (Zeyarati)—two ringleaders of Gulbuddin band—plus 13 accomplices were killed. and 26 criminals were wounded. During this battle two rockets, one recoilless rifle, one DShK, together with a number of light weapons and some ammunition, were destroyed, and six fortified hideouts of these criminals were smashed.

BIA, quoting a security forces spokesman, reports that due to the elimination of these extremists, there is now nothing to threaten our travelling compatriots. The brave Armed Forces of the country are always ready to inflict resolute and crushing blows on criminal extremists who disrupt the peaceful life of our compatriots and steal their property. [passage omitted]

Last night extremist criminals committed an unforgiveable crime. A BIA source reports that the destructive extremists fired surface-to-surface missiles at the Merwis Hospital in Qandahar city.

As a result of this satanic action, three patients in hospital beds and a nurse were martyred. The hospital building was also damaged.

Criminal extremists committed a shocking crime this afternoon in Charikar city. BAKHTAR's military section reports that elements belonging to the extemists groups fired surface-to-surface missiles at residential areas of Charikar today around 1500. Missiles hit the house of Habiburraman, martyring a woman and four children aged 12, 6, 3 and 18 months, and injuring an 8-year-old child.

Operations in Provinces Noted

LD0810143288 Kabul Domestic Serivce in Dari 1330 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Criminal extremists today launched six surface-to-surface missiles at the residential areas of Wards 2 and 3 of Jalabad city, Nangarhar Province. One citizen was martyred and another two were injured.

The BIA military section reports that the 6 October combat operations carried out by the Armed Forces in Daman District, resulted in 41 criminal elements, including (Akhtar), one of their ringleaders, being crushed, and another 24 injured.

In another Armed Forces operation in Maywand District, Qandahar Province, 18 subversive extremists were crushed, and an enemy tractor loaded with weapons and ammunition was destroyed.

Another report from Nimruz Province says that yesterday, five extremist elements trying to disrupt the peace and security in the surroundings of Zaranj city, were crushed. During this operation, several enemy weapons were destroyed and four extremists were injured.

According to another report, 12 thieves and saboteurs attached to the extremist groups, hiding in the Jindaran region, Konduz Province, were crushed. During this operation which was carried out yesterday several enemy weapons were also destroyed.

Yesterday, in contining their mopping-up operations in the area of Kabul city, weapons and ammunition belonging to the extremists were discovered. The report adds that during this operation, carried out in the (Karez-Mir) region north of Kabul, 12 surface-to-surface missiles, 38 mortar shells, 1 heavy machinegun, 1 rocket launcher, 3 light machineguns, and several antipersonnel mines were seized.

Missiles Hit Qandahar, Farah

LD0910193188 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 09 Oct 88

[Text] According to a report from Qandahar Province, armed extremists fired surface-to-surface missiles over the residential areas of (Abasabad) village, Qandahar city, as a result of which two of our compatriots, a man and a woman, were martyred and four other members of the same family were injured.

Also as a result of this devilish action by the criminal extremists a mosque and 41 houses were destroyed and another house was completely burned.

According to a report from Farah Province, extremists fired nine surface-to-surface missiles on residential areas of Farah city on 7 October, as a result of which five of our compatriots were martyred including women, children, and elderly people, and another five were injured. According to reports from BIA correspondents in the capital of that province, those injured in these incidents were sent to hospitals for treatment and observation.

Islamabad Reports Mujahidin Operations

150 Kabul Men Surrender

BK0710154688 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, a large number of Kabul regime forces have been killed during mujahidin operations in various parts of the country. Some 150 Kabul soldiers, including 4 commanders, surrendered to the mujahidin at Takhteh Pol area.

According to another report, the mujahidin killed 45 soldiers of the Kabul regime in Darvazeh, Qandahar and (Pol-e Miran) highway areas last week. They also destroyed six tanks during the operations.

The mujahidin also shot down (?three) helicopters of the Kabul regime in the southeastern provinces last week, killing the pilots and crew members.

Operations in Farah, Qandahar

BK0810143688 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] The mujahidin in Afghanistan have gained full control of (Baswa) District in Farah Province after a joint operation on Wednesday. The mujahidin seized two military posts in the (Sarhad-e Khowst) region of Nangarhar Province on Wednesday, capturing six Kabul soldiers and seizing a large quantity of arms and ammunition. Several soldiers of the Kabul administration defected to the mujahidin. The mujahidin are continuing their attacks on military convoys in the Salang Tunnel area and are interrupting supplies for Kabul forces. They are inflicting heavy damage on the convoys.

The mujahidin are continuing their operations in the provincial capital of Qandahar and the surrounding areas, inflicting heavy casualties on the Kabul regime forces in men and material.

Meanwhile, a report from Kabul said that a (?group) of 200 commandos trained in a communist country has been deployed to launch operations against the mujahidin.

Paktika Garrison Captured

BK0910162388 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] A report from Afghanistan says the mujahidin have captured Khwaja Nur military garrison between the Paktika provincial capital of Sharan and Ghazni. The AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY has said that during this operation about 100 Kabul administration soldiers were killed and 20 captured. A large quantity of arms and ammunition and agricultural machinery, including tractors and threshers, were also seized. The mujahidin also attacked two convoys of oil tankers north of the Salang Tunnel, damaging 14 oil tankers and causing the loss of 70 tons of oil.

Another report says the mujahidin shot down a Kabul administration transport aircraft in the Khowst area. A Kabul administration helicopter was shot down in both Ghazni and Wardak Provinces [as heard]. Another report says the mujahidin have also fired rockets on Kabul and Jalalabad in order to put pressure on the Kabul administration's forces.

Operations in Konarha, Zabol

BK1110084288 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] In Afghanistan, another provincial capital, (Suba Sarai), is reported to have fallen to the Afghan mujahidin. It is located in the Konarha Province and had been under siege for a long time. The AFGHAN NEWS

AGENCY says the Kabul regime troops, including local militiamen, surrendered to the mujahidin along with their arms and ammunition. Another report says that the mujahidin are closing in on the capital of Zabol Province, Qalat, and on Qandahar. They shot down a helicopter near Qalat, killing its pilot and the crew.

Bangladesh

Ershad Receives Iraqi Envoy, Saddam Letter

JN1010115788 Baghdad INA in Arabic
0830 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Dhaka, 10 Oct (INA)—Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad has received a written message from President Saddam Husayn. Wisam al-Zahawi, under secretary of the Foreign Ministry, conveyed the message during a meeting with the Bangladesh president today. During the meeting Al-Zahawi explained in detail Iraq's position in the negotiations with Iran held in Geneva under the auspices of the UN secretary general.

President Hussain Mohammad Ershad showed understanding for Iraq's position and expressed Bangladesh's support for Iraq's positions to reach a comprehensive and lasting peace. He also expressed his thanks and appreciation to President Saddam Husayn for Iraq's assistance to Bangladesh despite its war situation, particularly with regard to coping with the effects of the destructive floods this year.

Delhi: 80 Students Injured in 10 Oct Clashes

BK1110065388 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0630 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] In Bangladesh, at least 80 students were injured when activists of the Central Students Action Committee clashed with the pro-Bangladesh National Party Jatiyabadi Chhatra Dal [Nationalist Students Party] in different parts of the country yesterday. Authorities shut down three colleges in northern Rajshahi and one college in Gaibanda after the clashes. Police arrested several people involved in the incidents. Reports say about 50 students were injured during the series the clashes in Rajshahi town.

India

President on Pakistani Support for 'Terrorists'

BK1010075688 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0730 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] The president today voiced his concern over continued assistance to terrorists from across the borders. He expressed the hope that Pakistan will realize the futility of fomenting secessionism in Punjab. Mr Venkataraman was inaugurating a 2-day conference of governors in New Delhi today. Mr Venkataraman said that by ceasing to help terrorists, Islamabad will remove a major impediment in realization of friendly and normal relations between the two countries. Asserting that there can be no compromise on the integrity of the country, the president said a solution has to be found within the framework of the Constitution, while at the same time, violence has to be firmly put down.

On the center-state relations, Mr Venkataraman urged the governors to communicate to the Union Home Ministry their views on the Sarkaria Commission report [on center-state relations]. He said this may be done quickly so that further processing may start. The vice president, Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma, and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, were present at the inaugural session.

Further on President's Speech

BK1010095088 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] The president has underlined the need for economy and efficiency in public expenditure to contain the difficult resource position. Opening the 2-day conference of the governors in New Delhi today, Mr Venkataraman also called for a close watch on the price situation. He noted that the ninth finance commission in its interim report has projected a deficit of the central and state governments for the next year. He hoped every effort will be made to follow appropriate policies to contain revenue deficit. The president touched upon a number of internal issues, like the problem of terrorism, communalism, strengthening of the panchayati raj [village-level administration] system, population control, and India's relations with its neighbors.

The president expressed concern over the overall security environment and the continued assistance to the terrorists from across the border. He made it clear that there can be no compromise on the integrity of the country. A solution has to be found within the framework of the Constitution, while, at the same time, violence has to be firmly put down. He said we remain committed to the goal of friendly and normal relations with Pakistan. It is our sincere hope that Pakistan will see the futility of fomenting secessionism in Punjab and thus remove the major impediment in the realization of our goal.

Mr Venkataraman referred to the growing left-wing extremist violence in Andhra Pradesh and Bihar and communal disturbances, leading to the law and order problems. He called upon the governors to build public opinion against such activities and to bring about greater social unity and harmony. He also requested them to discuss the panchayati raj system with the state governments with a view to taking the administration closer to the people. Mr Venkataraman made a strong plea for containing population growth. He also called for evolving a scheme to rehabilitate personnel of the Armed Forces who retire at a comparatively young age.

On the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement, the president said full implementation is being hampered by the obduracy of the LTTE. It has refused to abjure violence and join the democratic process.

The vice president, Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma, and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, were present at the inaugural function.

China's Qichen Assures 'Warm Welcome' for Gandhi

BK0710160488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] China attaches importance to the forthcoming visit of the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. The Chinese foreign minister, Mr Qian Qichen, told a high-level delegation from India in Beijing today that Mr Gandhi will receive a very warm welcome.

The Indian delegation led by the foreign secretary, Mr K.P.S. Menon, has had 3 days of talks with the Chinese side led by a vice foreign minister, Mr Liu Shuqing, on the planned visit of Mr Gandhi.

High-Level Delegation to China Returns 9 Oct

BK0910080888 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] The high-level Indian delegation led by the foreign secretary, Mr K.P.S. Menon, returned from China early this morning. During their stay in Beijing the delegation held talks with the Chinese foreign minister and the vice foreign minister on the prime minister's proposed visit to China.

Mr Menon told PTI at New Delhi Airport that the talks had been satisfying. The five member delegation included Information and Broadcasting Secretary Mr Gopi Arora; the joint secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Mr Vijaya Nambiar; and the joint secretary in the Prime Minister's Office, Mr Ronen Sen.

Newsmen Briefed on Visit

BK1010161488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] The high-level Indian delegation led by the foreign secretary, Mr K.P.S. Menon, that visited China, discussed a whole range of issues, including the boundary question with Chinese officials in Beijing. Briefing newsmen in New Delhi today, an official spokesman said the prime minister's forthcoming visit to China also figured during the talks. Both substantive matters concerning the visit and details of the program were discussed. In reply to questions, the spokesman said the boundary question may come up for discussion with Chinese leaders during the prime minister's visit.

Ministers Urge Calm in Hindu-Muslim Conflict

BK0910041888 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] The union home minister, Mr Buta Singh, held a meeting with representatives of Babri Masjid Action Committee in New Delhi yesterday to discuss the Ram Janam Bhumi-Babri Masjid issue [in which both Hindu and Muslim communities claim a historic site in Uttar Pradesh belongs to them]. The Uttar Pradesh chief minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, and the union minister of state for home, Mr Santosh Mohan Dev, were also present at the meeting. Mr Buta Singh and Mr N.D. Tiwari appealed to the delegation to reconsider their decision to stage a march to Ayuthya on the 14th of this month.

During the discussion, Mr Buta Singh indicated that the process of consultations to arrive at an acceptable and amicable solution will continue. The home minister is to soon hold another meeting with representatives of the Hindu community. Mr Singh emphasized the importance of showing restraint and maintaining communal harmony at the present juncture.

In a statement issued after the meeting, Mr Tiwari has appealed to all sections of the people to do nothing that will come in the way of maintaining a congenial climate in this festive season. He requested the leaders of both the communities to immediately withdraw their calls for bundhs [strikes], agitations, marches, and other such steps so that an amicable solution to this issue could be reached in consultation with all concerned. Mr Tiwari said the government is determined to maintain peace and harmony at all cost.

Meanwhile, agency reports say that 2 persons were killed and about 27 injured in scattered incidents of violence during the day-long state-wide bundh called by the Ram Janam Bhumi Sangarsh Samity [Struggle Committee] yesterday to protest against the proposed march to Ayuthya on the 14th of this month. The two deaths were reported from Aligarh. Parts of Muzeffanagar town were brought under curfew following violent clashes.

15 'Terrorists' Arrested, 2 Killed in Punjab

BK0710130088 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Punjab police have arrested 15 terrorists and shot dead 2 hard-core ones in the state since last night. In a major break-through the Patiala police arrested four terrorists, including Surender Singh (Sallah), who masterminded the Samana killings. Eighteen persons lost their lives in this terrorist attack in May.

The four terrorists were taken into custody after a brief encounter on the Patiala-Sirhind Road early this morning. They have confessed that they had plans to kill top Akali political leaders.

Seven hard-core terrorists were arrested last night near Kot Kapura in Faridkot District. Arms and ammunition have been recovered from the arrested terrorists.

Security forces killed two hard-core terrorists in an encounter under Hargovindpur Police Station in Batala today. Two terrorists were injured in the encounter. Three other terrorists were arrested in Sangrur and Jullundur districts.

'Terrorists' Kill 3 in Punjab

BK0810032288 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] In Punjab three persons were shot dead by terrorists in Jullundur District yesterday. The terrorists opened indiscriminate fire in Badasalam under Nakodar police station, killing the three on the spot. Reinforcements of security forces have been rushed to the area.

Former Congress-I Minister Shot

BK1110102488 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] In the northern state of Punjab, a former Congress-I minister, Mr Bhagwan Das, his gunman, and another person were gunned down at Jaitomandi in Faridkot District shortly before noon today. The assailants, whose identity is yet to be established, attacked Mr Bhagwan Das in his shop.

'Indefinite Curfew' Imposed in Aligarh

BK1010151488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] In Uttar Pradesh, indefinite curfew has been imposed in several parts of Aligarh following violent incidents. An official spokesman said in Lucknow today that one person was killed in a stabbing incident.

In Muzaffarnagar, curfew was lifted in the city following improvement in the situation. The spokesman added that curfew was relaxed for more than 3 hours in areas of Khatauli. No untoward incident was reported during the period. Agency reports say a few arrests were made. The overall situation is tense.

CPI-M Comments on Party Rule, Communalism

BK0710161588 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] The CPI-M has called upon left and secular forces to fight against what it called the one-party authoritarian rule on the one hand and the communal and divisive forces on the other. In its draft political resolution for the 13th party congress, the party Central Committee observed that opposition unity is essential to meet the aspirations of the people.

Briefing newsmen, the party general secretary, Mr E.M.S. Namboodiripad, said opposition parties must have an uncompromising attitude toward communal forces.

The resolution hoped that the forthcoming visit to China by the prime minister will further improve relations between the two countries.

Opposition Parties Differ on Merger Issue

BK0710162488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] The differences among the four opposition parties surfaced again today with the Lok Dal announcing that it will not attend the Bangalore conference scheduled to be held on the 11th of this month for the formation of a new party. The other constituents are the Janata, Congress-S and the Jan Morcha.

The Lok Dal general secretary, Mr V.P. Maurya, said in New Delhi that his party was not consulted on the setting-up of a steering committee headed by Mr V.P. Singh. He said all the four constituents should have been consulted before the constitution of such a committee. He pointed out that only a general session of the party has the constitutional authority to dissolve the party before any merger.

The former Janata Party president, Mr Chandra Shekhar, has ruled out the dissolution of his party. Talking to newsmen, he said his party can only go for a unification of the opposition parties.

Lok Dal Leaders Split

BK0810161788 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] The Lok Dal general secretary, Mr Sharad Yadav, has said that his party will take part in the Bangalore conference on opposition unity to be held on Tuesday next [11 October]. In a statement in New Delhi today, he alleged that a handful of leaders are trying to sabotage the unity move and are creating an impression that Lok Dal will not participate in the conference. The other Lok Dal general secretary, Mr V.P. Maurya, had in a press statement in New Delhi yesterday said that the Lok Dal would not take part in the Bangalore conference.

5 North Koreans, $44 Million of Heroin Seized

BK0710164688 Hong Kong AFP in English 0846 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Excerpts] New Delhi, Oct 7 (AFP)—Police arrested five North Koreans in Bombay and seized heroin worth 44 million dollars Friday in India's largest drug haul so far, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported. Bombay police officers and federal detectives arrested the five alleged drug peddlers, including two women, near the city's domestic airport and seized 85 kilograms (187 pounds) of heroin from them, PTI said. [passage omitted]

A total of 1,707 kilograms (3,755 pounds) of heroin were seized across India and 64 leading drug traffickers arrested so far this year. Last year's seizure of 67 tonnes of narcotics included 2,747 kilograms (6,040 pounds) of heroin.

Iran

Khamene'i Delivers Friday Prayers Sermon

LD0710185188 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1258 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Second Friday prayers sermon delivered by President 'Ali Khamene'i at Tehran University on 7 October—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Greetings to the prophet and his scion. These days coincide with that tragic event in the history of Islam, the passing away of the messenger of God which was a great loss. I offer my condolences to all Muslim brothers and sisters. [passage omitted]

There are one or two brief points that I must discuss before going on to the main issue. One is to express my appreciation to the war refugees. All of us who deliver sermons at Friday prayers have talked on various issues but we have neglected to mention these dear ones who were made refugees by the imposed war. Now I deem it necessary to make amends and to refer to their plight. [passage omitted]

Moreover, I must refer to Universal Post Day on which our brothers in the Ministry of Post, Telegraph, and Telephone have written a lengthy item. I just want to express my gratitude to a deprived class of our society, the toiling postmen who work to link us with our friends and relatives and with our business connections. [passage omitted]

There is also another important issue, that of conscripts and soldiers who have absented themselves. I will refer to this at the end of my sermon.

However, the main topic which I intend to examine in my second sermon today concerns the recent message which our great imam issued to the authorities and the Iranian nation on reconstruction. In fact, this message opened up many prospects for us; it was very fruitful. I had intended to speak about the message itself to explain the main points, but then I realized that this task is indeed impossible to accomplish in one sermon, particularly now that we are trying to keep our sermons short.

So the message is explicit, clear, and very profitable' the people have read or heard it. Yet the authorities must reread it and pay more attention to it than before. They must base their planning on the message which, God willing, we intend to do so. Indeed, the primary responsibility rests on our own shoulders. All the authorities must pay attention to it.

There are nine basic points in the message related to the chapter on reconstruction and policies regarding reconstruction, all of which are important. There are minute and detailed points that are part of those nine points. Moreover, basic issues have been outlined: the principle of "Neither East nor West" of the Islamic Republic and the fact that this principle is everlasting. It includes many examples. I realize that I would have to speak at length if I were to talk about it. In any case, the message in itself is expressive, explicit, and comprehensive. [passage omitted]

Yet there is one other point that I must make which is mentioned in the message of our dear imam. It concerns the conspiracy of foreigners and enemies to which I must draw your attention. This conspiracy of the enemies of the Islamic Republic regime aims to create a credibility gap between the authorities of the Islamic Republic on one hand, and individual persons of our nation and also other nations of the world on the other. This is an important issue.

The Islamic Republic today continues to serve as a center of hope and strength in the hearts of the nations. It is especially so in the case of Muslim nations. You can see that during the 10 years since the victory of the revolution, almost 10 years, and since the establishment of the Islamic Republic regime, in all the Islamic countries, or in most of them, tendencies toward pure Islam and to the sovereignty of Islam and its laws have appeared among groups of young people. This was unprecedented, especially in their scope and depth.

In the past if you wanted to find the active, liberal, and intellectual groups in a country, you had to single out groups that had inclinations toward leftism, infidelity, and Marxism. They were the groups in various countries, including Islamic ones, that used to shout for freedom or to protest at the existing order. However, since the Islamic Republic was established, there is no longer any news or sign of the leftist groups. They have no power; they are no longer outstanding. Now if the young people and those who feel strongly do raise slogans against the arrogant powers or shout against dictatorship and tyrany, they are Muslim groups, those who demand the sovereignty of the Koran. [passage omitted]

Of course, our enemies say that we export our revolution, meaning that we engage in intrigue. This is a lie. These numerous Islamic groups that exist all over the world have no organic relation with the Islamic Republic. It is not the Islamic Republic that makes the Islamic groups in various countries protest. According to our Constitution, we cannot interfere in the affairs of other countries. [passage omitted]

Our enemies question the independent status of the Islamic Republic and spread rumors to the effect that the Islamic Republic has compromised with the East or the West, or that it was forced, like the other revolutions, to

submit to the influence of this or that world power. This is something they have been doing for a long time through various propaganda ploys and in a devious manner.

They start rumors and accuse the officials of the Islamic Republic and its policies and diplomacy. All these efforts by the enemy are intended to prove to the young people and strugglers of the other Islamic countries that the Islamic Revolution has gone astray, that it is no longer the promised land [ka'beh-ye omid] which you had in mind. This is their aim.

Now the reconstruction period has begun and reconstruction has become our nation's slogan. Reconstruction requires certain measures and tasks, political maneuvers, economic transformations, and communications with the world. So the enemies now say they have a pretext to claim that in the reconstruction phase the Islamic Republic is seeking the help of this or that superpower because it needs such help. They also claim that the Islamic Republic has now abandoned its uncompromising positions toward tyranny, domination, and colonialism, and has surrendered as the others did. This conspiracy now exists in the world.

When you see that the imam stresses the independence of the Islamic Republic's system, or that the officials of the Islamic Republic will certainly comply with this principle with care and caution, he was aiming to defeat this conspiracy, the sort of slander and rumors on which the enemy is spending money to spread these rumors throughout the world. With this conspiracy the Muslims of the world become disappointed with the Islamic Republic.

They are pursuing the same goal within our nation too. However, as far as our nation is concerned, their efforts are in vain. As the imam said in his message, our nation is alert. The enemy's propaganda has no customers in Iran. The nation knows the country's officials well and is aware of their line, ideology, and intentions. The nation is aware of these officials' commitment to Islam and to the principle of "Neither West nor East," and to the country's total independence and self-sufficiency. This commitment is so great that nothing can deter these officials. They are known to the majority of people.

I do not say all the people, because there may be individuals inside the country who may have doubts and uncertainties. These rumors do not enjoy a lucrative market inside our country. However, they do have such a market in the world where much use is made of these rumors. This is where our own mass media should take care. When a journalist or a speaker tries to make a remark, even though it is sincere and careful and harbors no ill intentions, he should be aware that the enemy will use his remarks. [passage omitted]

Our enemies in the world wholeheartedly welcome the appearance of this idea among the nations and within the Iranian nation that the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran may seek to compromise with the powers, and make concessions regarding the revolution's principles. They welcome this. If a certain writer or speaker makes a remark and such a remark implies this very point, then they will use it as evidence. Writers and speakers ought to be careful about what they write or say.

We categorically declare that the Islamic Republic will preserve its principles under all conditions, in particular its main political principle of "Neither West nor East," which has been drawn from the core of Islam. [crowd chants approval]

Another point concerns the fact that the same enemy's hand—although, of course, some hands and mouths of our friends also follow the enemy's lines through lack of attention, ignorance, and lack of information; I do not say they are hostile—the enemy's main tactic is to say that the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran are not united in their views on national issues, particularly reconstruction. This is false. Here in front of all of you and to other officials are most probably listening to these remarks, I categorically declare that there are no differences of opinion among the country's officials regarding the most essential lines of reconstruction. All of them are united.

Now I am referring to some of these issues so that you may know that all officials are unanimous on these issues. All are united in their belief that national reconstruction should primarily be based on internal resources, domestic human resources, the money of our own people, and the money of our own government. No one is saying that while we have experts and scholars in the country who can implement certain projects we should set them aside and bring someone from beyond our borders and ask him to implement a project. Have the officials lost their senses to do such a thing? It is clear that there can be no question about this. As far as possible we should make use of our internal resources. No one has the slightest doubt regarding this.

Also no one questions the fact that when we need to use others' resources, that is, foreign sources, to reconstruct the country with adequate speed and at an appropriate time, we will make use of them. There are no differences of opinion regarding this either.

Do not think that there are any differences here. The heads of the three branches and the prime minister, these four individuals who have been given the responsibility to exchange opinions regarding the issues of reconstruction and adopt policies, are unanimous in their views regarding this issue. In the first instance, we should use domestic resources. When we are in need and when we face shortages we should use foreign resources. There are certain projects for which our domestic resources, financial or human, may be insufficient or inadequate. We cannot prolong the issue of reconstruction for 100 years.

Reconstruction should be carried out speedily. Our reconstruction will be a testing ground in the eyes of the peoples of the world who wish to see how we accomplish it. [passage omitted]

Our reconstruction will be compared with other people's reconstruction. The people of the world, future generations, the present generation, careful observers of the world, and enlightened generations will look to see how the communists and the capitalists carried out their reconstruction, and how the Muslims carry out their reconstruction. We should act both as regards time and quality so that we can preserve Islam's reputation.

In the imam's message the word speed was mentioned, and he stated that reconstruction should be carried out speedily. If we wish to act with speed there are occasions when our domestic resources may be inadequate. In those cases we will make use of foreign resources. There are no differences of opinion regarding this among national officials.

Of course, it is clear that these officials will use foreign resources properly, with complete faith in the fact that they should retain national independence, correctly, not in any way that would subject them to foreign domination, or that would make them even gradually dependent. No, we trust ourselves. We trust the strength of the Islamic Republic and the strength of the leadership of Islamic order. We are not afraid of relations with other countries. Those who are afraid of their relations with other countries suffer from a sense of inferiority. We have no sense of inferiority.

Regarding those countries with which we do not wish to have relations, this is not due to the fact that we are afraid of them. This is based on a certain logic. Yes, there are some countries with which we do not wish to have relations. It is not that we cannot have relations with them, or that we are afraid of having relations with them and feel that if we have relations with them they will be able to do this or that. No, we do not wish to have relations with them. We have strong reasons in this regard.

In those cases when we deem relations appropriate, when there is no impediment to relations, we act with strength, with courage, and hold our heads high and stand erect. In the diplomatic sphere, as in other spheres, we have wise and capable individuals as a result of the blessings of the revolution, and we are not all afraid of having healthy relations with other countries within this framework; the framework of the prinicple of "Neither East nor West." Within this framework we believe that we have the ability to maneuver. There are no differences among the national officials on this matter either.

Some people may say: Yes, this person says that we should use foreign resources, and that person says we should not. There is no such thing. All the authorities believe that foreign resources ought not to be used in certain cases, and all the authorities believe that foreign resources ought to be used in certain instances. That is the manner of thinking. Such things are the basic principles, the main threads of reconstruction in Iran. Here is another example: the capital of the people and of those who can invest in the country's reconstruction, that very same farmer to whom the imam has paid such respect and whom the imam has made a pivot—and he ought to be a pivot and we will, God willing, establish policies on that basis. [sentence as heard]

Is farming possible without the people's investment? It is impossible. Well, all the country's authorities, that is, the heads of the three branches and the head of the government believe and agree that the people's capital must be used, and the people should be allowed to invest. When some people say: Gentlemen, you do not give the people security for investment; no, that is not the case. Security for investment exists for the people in various areas. Plans must be drawn up for in detail, but that is the basic policy, a policy of providing a stage for the people so that they may come and use their financial resources in reconstruction and assist it.

The minister of plan and budget reported to us at one of our meetings on policy-making for reconstruction that in several years the number of students will have greatly increased, and he stressed that the government will be unable of itself to manage the task of educating children. The people must enter the field in the construction of schools and the administration of education and training. That is just the educational sector. In various economic sectors the case is the same.

So, this remark made by foreign radio stations and by some people inside the country worries some sincere and faithful people who think: Oh dear, there are differences between the authorities. Sometimes they telephone us and say: Why do you gentlemen say different things? No, there may, of course, be differences of opinion, differences of taste with regard to various issues. It is inconceivable that there would be no differences. However, with regard to the main lines of the country's reconstruction, an important matter, there are no differences of any kind.

Let me say one thing in concluding my remarks. Look, our country has a variety of resources; it has great wealth, underground resources, good land, mines and minerals, and agricultural resources. We are a rich country. However, the country's most valuable resources lie in the talented people of the country. All the country's riches are nothing in comparison with the great talent of our nation, of our people. Our nation is one of the most talented nations in all scientific, technical, industrial, and artistic spheres.

Well, those talents must be exploited. How are they to be exploited? How can we bring all this nation's talents to fruition? How many resources can be placed at the disposal of the nation, with strong management, of

course, so that all those talents will be exploited? Yes, our practical resources are insufficient for involving the nation and for allowing all the talents to blossom; our resources are less than the level of our talent. This is not an current condition; it is a historical matter.

It is the product of a 100 years of colonial effort expended on the nation. It is the product of 50 years of wicked effort expended by the mercenery rulers of the United States and Great Britain in this country. They have made sure that the practical resources needed for the exploitation of talents have been taken away from the people.

Now, if we want to bring these talents into play, certain resources are necessary. First, education: We must have education. A talent cannot blossom alone, after all. This is the duty of the education sector in its various fields. Well, it is like a machine; if the machine begins moving, it will cover long distances with strength, but in order to start moving it needs a push. There are machines which need a push in order to start moving. Just as hands are placed on a machine to push it, suddenly someone stands up and says:

No, gentlemen, this is an automatic machine, it can move by itself. Why are you trying to push it? That is a betrayal of the fact that it is automatic. No, that is a mistake. That is an incorrect interpretation. It is an automatic machine, but it must be set into motion. For this talented nation to reach self-sufficiency and for the fruition of talents to be seen, which will undoubtedly happen over the years, it needs foundations and resources. If we do not give those resources to the nation today it would be a betrayal of the country's future.

For the resources to be provided to the nation we need to use other resources in addition to those within the country in some cases. It should not be the case that some naive people, who view things superficially, should raise their voices and say: Sir, you used the resources of others; we wanted to reach self-sufficiency. Yes, the resources obtained from others are a prelude to self-sufficiency. Those who have become dependent are those who have become addicted to consumption. Those who have become dependent are those who did not think of the country's future. They did not have plans for bringing talents to life.

The system whose plan and program is to bring talents to life must have working tools. It must have equipment. It must have technology. If it does not obtain that, be it from abroad or from foreign resources, it has betrayed the country's future. Those are precise points to which all the people must pay attention, particularly those whose words, whose pen, whose thoughts guide the people and show them the way. Those who speak and write must take note of this. They must not think emotionally. This concerns the development of a country, the destiny of a nation. A nation's destiny is not a joking matter.

In order that a few people may tell a person what a wonderfully strong and uncompromising person someone is, some people stand there, stand on a platform, or write some things on a sheet of paper. Well, that is not something to put the conscience at rest. The truth must be correctly and precisely stated to the people.

Now, as to the matter with which I wanted to conclude: Look, the main and immediate step for reconstruction is the reconstruction of defense matters and the reinforcement of the defense foundation. What does reinforcement of the defense foundation means? The reinforcement of the defense foundation is not just a matter of buying and producing weapons. The defense foundation is not just weapons. Before having weapons, the defense foundation must have human beings.

Our military organizations, Army, and IRGC have a very great responsibility to restore the manpower strength, to prepare the personnel for defense. Who are those who are obliged to be placed at the disposal of the Army and the IRGC for that purpose? They are the country's youth, those who are obliged to do their military service, those who are of draft age. When the doors of the mobilization forces open, everyone will come, those below the age of maturity and 70-year-old men. One ongoing issue that should never be interrupted even for one moment is that of conscripts. Those who absent themselves in their draft period are really traitors. This is what I wanted to say. The absentees should not believe that they have fooled the country or the system. A country or a system cannot be fooled; it is they themselves who are fooled. The Islamic Republic system will eventually receive national service from anyone who is legally obliged to serve. [passage omitted]

Absentees, Deserters Given Extra Week To Report
LD0910123588 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] The manpower deputy of the Armed Forces General Command Headquarters [setad-e farmandehi-ye koll-e qova] in an interview with the media said: Due to widespread calls made by draftees at the national service offices and with the approval of the acting commander in chief, absentee and deserter conscripts who report to the national service offices from 10 to 17 October will not be subject to the recent, more strict law regarding punitive sentences.

He added: This will not apply to employers who commit offenses by accepting absentes or deserter conscripts, as well as those who falsify and illegally issue exemption certificates, end of service certificates, and any other certificate permitting violation of national service duties. Starting 10 October such persons will receive harsh, punitive sentences.

The manpower deputy of the Armed Forces General Command Headquarters further said: After the abovementioned dates, the headquarters for processing

offenses as detailed in the law on stiffening sentences for absentee and deserter conscripts will begin work throughout the country. These headquarters will apprehend absentee and deserter conscripts and with the assistance of the Armed Forces judicial organization will pursue those people who arrange for national service conscripts to desert or become absentees.

Plan Minister, Khamene'i Discuss Reconstruction
LD0910123188 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] The minister of plan and budget has declared the ministry's readiness to undertake national reconstruction and to implement the measures approved by the country's authorities. He submitted a report on future programs of the Ministry of Plan and Budget to President Khamene'i.

According to IRNA, Mr Khamene'i stressed the need to paying ever-increasing attention to the required planning for national reconstructing based on Islamic criteria. He asked that full use be made of implementational facilities and resources within the country, especially with regard to the provision of manpower from inside the country.

IRNA also reports that the prepared draft program for the reconstruction and repair of houses damaged during the imposed war was presented by officials of the Housing Foundation to the president at a meeting of the country's authorities.

In addition, Mr Khamene'i was briefed by the imam's representative in the Islamic Revolution's Housing Foundation and the head of that foundation about the method of reconstructing regions damaged by earthquakes and floods in the past 18 months with the participation of the people.

Statement on Prophet's Death Anniversary Issued
LD0810185688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1654 GMT 8 Oct 88

["Unscheduled announcement"]

[Excerpts] Honoring the 28th day of Safar, the death anniversary of the holy prophet of Islam, peace and blessings of God be upon him, and also the day of martyrdom of the innocent Imam Hasan al-Mujtaba, peace be upon him, requires praising and upholding all divine decrees and seekers of justice.

In honor of the 28th day of Safar which fassl on Monday 10 October, the 1st Sarallah Corps issued a statement which in part states: The selfless Islamic fighters of the 27th Mohammad Rasulallah Division, 10th Seyyed al-Shohada Division, and the 63d Khatam ol-Anbiya' Brigade, as well as districts of Rey, Shemiranat, and bases of Abuzar, Malek Ashtar, and Martyr Beheshti will proceed to Martyr Motahhari College along specified routes after holding mourning ceremonies and processions.

They will participate in ceremonies honoring the memory of the demise of the exalted prophet, peace be upon him and his scion, and also the martyrdom of the Imam Hasan al-Mojtaba, peace be upon him. [passage omitted]

It is hoped that the victorious and ever-fervent fighters of Iran's martyrdom and mourning rites will participate in the mourning ceremonies and guard the pure Mohammadan Islam side by side with the other mourners.

Khamene'i, Musavi Speeches
LD1010145388 Tehran IRNA in English 1420 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 10, IRNA—Mourning ceremonies commemorating the passing away anniversary of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.) and the martyrdom anniversary of his grandson Imam Husayn (A.S.) were held nationwide today.

In Tehran President Khamene'i addressing a group of mourners at the central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) explained the situation of the world before Islam, noting that the only civilized powers at that time were Iranian and Roman Empires.

"These powers suffered from spiritual and moral poverty and depravity despite their claims of democracy," he pointed out.

Referring to the prophecy of Muhammad (S.A.W.) he said the aim of the prophet was not merely to replace a belief, but his goal and motivation was to establish a correct system on the basis of Islam in order to promote the human being.

President Khamene'i said Islam's sovereignty over the society, the beginning of social relations, social justice, and a halt to discriminations and fratrcide were among prominent characteristics witnessed in the ten-year period of the prophet's activities.

The prophet, he said, introduced to the human society a comprehensive religion which he said is backed by logic and science. It was for this very change that Muslims were the only standard-bearers of science for several centuries after the emergence of Islam, he said.

Khamene'i also urged Muslims to get rid of sectarianism, as well as ethnic and racial discriminations.

Muhammad ibn 'Abdullah was born in Mecca in 570 A.D. He received his prophetic call in about 610 A.D. at the age of 40. He emigrated from Mecca to Medina (Hejira) in 620, which is the starting point of the Hejira calendar.

Meanwhile, in a similar ceremony held in Fakhriyeh Mosque here, Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi termed the spread of Islam in a region (Arabian Peninsula) where no civilization existed before, as one of the magnificent aspects of Prophet Muohammad's life.

Citing a similarity between the emergence of Islam and the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran the premier said Islam introduced new values to the human society in a situation where the then Iranian and Roman superpowers had imposed their hegemony throughout the world and while fanatic Arab tribes reigned in the Arabian Peninsula.

The Islamic Revolution, he said was the manifestation of true Islam after 14 centuries, thus creating another "great wonder" in a world dominated by the East and the West superpowers.

Describing the Islamic Revolution as "a miracle", he said the revolution triumphed under circumstances where the oppressor East and West as well as big economic and military powers made impossible the establishment of even a religious government.

He said the message of the Islamic Revolution has now been exported to the world and Muslims can establish a government of their own on the basis of Islam and the holy Koran and thus decide their own fate.

Montazeri Meets With Khomeyni's Son

LD1110113688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, Hojjat ol-Eslam Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni met with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom last night.

Talks With UK on Resuming Ties Reach Impasse

LD0710214188 Tehran IRNA in English 2110 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] London, Oct. 7, IRNA—British and Iranian negotiations on the restoration of full diplomatic ties have reached an impasse with Assistant Under-Secretary Sir David Myers returning to London for consultations with his Foreign Ministry.

A spokesman for the Foreign Office told IRNA Friday that the adjourned talks in Geneva was a "pause for reflection" and discounted suggestions that there had been an irreparable breakdown, but had no idea when discussions may resume.

"It's not unusual for this to happen, it happened over embassy compensation talks earlier this year," he said and suggested that the British Government was now getting used to having protracted discussion with Iran and came as "no surprise."

The negotiations halted after three days Thursday was the second round and a repetition of the first bout in Geneva last week, when the Foreign Office had expected a quick resolution in one day.

Britain is currently the only European country without representation in Iran and the fears that it has been losing out have intensified with the possibility of lucrative reconstruction contracts following a ceasefire in the Iraqi war.

According to the London INDEPENDENT Friday, Britain had hoped to have been able to reopen its embassy in Tehran within a matter of weeks but its apparent reluctance in being forthright and admitting a changed policy about the Islamic Republic was hampering negotiations.

It quoted British officials saying that the problems stemmed from Iran's demand that it required a formal communique from Britain acknowledging that it was the London government that had sought to renew relations.

Britain's initial approach to Iran is thought to date back to March this year and was followed by a series of parliamentary and diplomatic visits to Tehran. The use of Oman as a mediator was also thought to have used. [sentence as received]

THE INDEPENDENT said that Iranian diplomats point out that it was the U.K. that initiated the current round of talks and that it would be "proper for that to be recorded."

It led the paper to believe that Britain may have miscalculated Iran's response and could find (?itself) in a "position of a suitor who might yet be rejected."

It went on to make mischievous insinuations that the impasse could be connected with the release of British hostages held in Lebanon but this was firmly repudiated by the Foreign Office. "The talks are strictly about representation and not about anything else," the spokesman said. "Hostages have nothing to do with it."

Japanese Group Explores Resumption of Project

LD0810174388 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] A 16-man Japanese delegation arrived in Tehran last night to investigate possibilities of resuming the joint Iran-Japan petrochemical project. The Japanese delegation includes 3 managing board members of the Iran-Japan joint venture petrochemical company and 13 share-holding experts of this project.

During its visit to our country, the delegation will visit the site of the unfinished Iran-Japan petrochemical project in Bandar-e Khomeyni and, during a meeting with the responsible officials of Iran's national petrochemical industries, will review and discuss the possibility of resuming work and completing this project.

Velayati Holds News Conference in New York

LD0710125188 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Oct

[Text] We continue this hour's news reports with a broadcast of the details of Foreign Minister Velayati's meeting with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, as well as his news conference, which took place before his departure from New York. We now draw your attention to this report:

[Unidentified London correspondent] Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, our country's foreign minister, left for Tehran this morning at the end of his meetings and negotiations at UN Headquarters in New York. Before departing for Tehran, he met with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and reviewed with him the developments concerning the implementation of Security Council Resolution No 598. At this meeting, the UN secretary general expressed satisfaction at the progress of the talks regarding the implementation of Resolution No 598, as well as the progress in the negotiations.

Having reiterated the necessity of continuing talks, the two sides agreed that until the resumption of talks at the foreign ministerial level, the task of reviewing the recent proposals made by the secretary general should be continued by the experts.

In addition, our country's foreign minister held a press, radio, and television interview before his departure from New York this morning in which he explained to a number of foreign correspondents the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Resolution No 598, the progress in the talks, and the currently existing obstacles in the implementation of the resolution.

He examined Iran's cooperation with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's efforts in the implementation of the resolution and his recent proposals. Remarking on the Security Council's support for the secretary general, he stressed that the 1975 convention between Iran and Iraq is a comprehensive axis that covers all issues related to Iran and Iraq.

He added: With regard to the discussion of the Arvand River dredging issue, even the research involved in this issue should be carried out on the basis of the 1975 convention. Any violation of this convention would be met with intense resistance on Iran's part.

Referring to the agreements convention that took place in Vienna in 1969, Dr Velayati stressed that the 1975 convention is unalterable, definite, and durable.

The UN observers have no doubt that considering the secretary general's recent proposals, the talks have been following a positive and harmonious trend. Sources believe that the secretary general is determined to organize a committee for Clause 6, and also for the implementation of Clause 8 of the resolution. In this respect, he is in touch with the countries of the region.

The date and the venue of the next tripartite session of the Iranian and Iraqi foreign ministerss with the UN secretary general will be decided on and announced according to the trend of progress in the delegations' work.

Dr Velayati held some 50 meetings with other countries' foreign ministers during his stay in New York, the most he has ever held in all of his visits to the UN General Assembly.

Returns to Tehran, Views Talks

NC0810074688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Report by unidentified correspondent on the return to Tehran of Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati from New York on 8 October—live or recorded]

[Text] Foreign Minister Mr Velayati, who was in New York to participate in the 43d UN General Assembly session, as well as the second round of tripartite talks between the foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq and UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar concerning the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No 598, returned to Tehran this morning.

On his arrival in Tehran, Mr Velayati commented on the results of the 43d UN General Assembly session in an interview and said: In view of the progress in disarmament talks between the two superpowers, developments on the international political scene and the resolution of regional conflicts in the world, the latest session had special significance. During the session, the Iranian delegation exchanged views with the foreign ministers of various countries on bilateral ties and regional and international issues.

Continuing the interview, the foreign minister referred to the peace talks between Iran and Iraq, which will continue between their representatives at the United Nations under the supervision of the UN secretary general's special representative. He said: Whenever the UN secretary general and the two sides feel that the level and content of talks have reached a point that necessitates a meeting, one will be convened at the invitation of the UN secretary general. The venue and timing of the next round of talks have not been officially announced by the UN secretary general.

Regarding the outcome of the second round of Iran-Iraq talks, Dr Velayati said: Our assessment of this round is more positive than that of the previous round in Geneva. We made more progress, comparatively speaking. If the Iraqi delegation participates in the third round of talks

with more authority, displays more good will, and refrains from raising irrelevant and inopportune matters outside the agenda, we will definitely make more progress.

Asked whether any decisions were made on dredging the Arvand River [Shatt al-'Arab waterway] prior to the implementation of all the other clauses of Resolution No 598, Mr Velayati said: Certainly not. One of the most important reasons for differences between us and the Iraqi delegation is that we want a logical implementation of Resolution No 598 within the framework of the UN secretary general's plan, in the order specified. We do not raise irrelevant issues, such as the matter of the Arvand River, and we will not permit the other side to enter into such discussions.

He added: Of course, we have said that if the issue of the desilting of the Arvand River and shipping in the waterway are discussed at the proper juncture—and we also are very desirous of a solution of these issues—they should be carried out according to the 1975 Algiers accord, to the letter and in full.

On Success of Talks

LD0810080388 Tehran IRNA in English 0702 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 8, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati who led three round of talks with Foreign Minister of Iraq Tariq 'Aziz at the UN New York Headquarters last week said Saturday that they were more successful than the previous talks in Geneva. He arrived in Tehran Saturday morning.

Velayati interviewed aboard the plane on his return to Tehran said that the Iraqi delegates did not have sufficient authority to decide on their own which fact, he said, was responsible for the slow progress of the talks.

He added that talks would resume under the supervision of the UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and his special representative Jan Eliasson.

More on New York talks he said that the UN chief put forward proposals and both sides agreed to it in principle. The proposal called for withdrawal of both Iraq and Iran to international borders within 15 days, Iran dropping its rights for searching ships in the Strait of Hormuz and finally exchange of POWS if talks are successful. If all these are accomplished the fourth article of the resolution which is the overall settlement of the disputes will be discussed, he added.

Commenting on future of the talks, he said no date has yet been set and added that in the meantime Eliasson will continue his contacts with UN representatives of Iran and Iraq.

In New York Velayati attended the UN General Assembly and also held talks with foreign dignitaries and Perez de Cuellar right before departing for Tehran. On Perez de Cuellar's role, he said that he is serious in his mission and is fully supported by the Security Council members and most UN members.

On the outcome of the talks he said that the developments have revealed the real face of the Iraqi Government to the world and Iran's interest in peace.

On Iraq's hindering moves in the course of the talks he said that in order to be successful the parties involved must have authority and the decision making power, otherwise talks will not progress and will become more complicated.

He reiterated that the Iraqi party lacks the authority it needs for negotiation at this level as a result of which in the course of talks the Iraqi delegates feel somewhat confused as to what they should do.

As for his talks with the foreign ministers of other countries who were in New York for the General Assembly he said in these meetings all views and stances of Iran were clarified. The impression was that all these countries were for immediate implementation of Resolution 598.

Asked to comment on his talks with foreign minister of Kuwait and whether the two countries will exchange ambassadors in the near future, he said bilateral ties were discussed and if the trend continues successfully ambassadors will be exchanged.

Commentary Views Velayati's UN Speech

NC0810110488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0615 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Commentary entitled "Analysis of the Week" from the Voice of the Front feature]

[Text] Our country's foreign minister presented a comprehensive analysis at the UN General Assembly regarding international issues, including the imposed war and topics relating to UN Security Council Resolution No 598 and Iraqi obstructionism during the political peace talks between Iran and Iraq in New York.

Dr Velayati said: The realization of a just, comprehensive, and honorable peace will not be possible without the accurate and complete implementation of international laws and particularly the international agreement on the boundaries of the two countries, dated 14 June 1975; that is, the accord of friendship and goodneighborliness between Iran and Iraq. In addition, political resolve, as well as good will, on the part of the two sides is essential for attaining peace.

It was stressed in the speech by the Islamic Republic's foreign minister at the UN General Assembly that the people of Iran are sensitive to any potential harm of their rights and will resist all obstructionism or encroachment on their political or military rights. The experience of 8 years of sacred defense is the best proof of this assertion.

Dr Velayati also stressed in his UN General Assembly speech the need for a more cohesive regional reorganization in the Persian Gulf with the participation of the region's countries. He said this was the sole means of combating the presence of foreign forces in the region and protecting the security of this sensitive and strategic area.

Iraqi Violations of Cease-Fire Listed

LD0710144988 Tehran IRNA in English 1031 GMT 7 Oct 88

["Fresh Iraqi Violations of Aug. 20 Ceasefire Reported"—IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 7, IRNA—A senior military official has revealed new cases of violations by the Baghdad regime of the U.N.-sponsored Aug. 20 during September 23-30 period. [sentence as received] These cases have also been reported by Iran to the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG) stationed on the Iraq-Iran border to monitor the ceasefire:

1—At 08:15 hours local time (04:45 GMT) on Sept. 23, an Iraqi truck landed troops in Nahr 'Anbar (at geographical coordinates 324-920).

2—At 08:30 hours (05:00 GMT) on Sept. 23, a number of Iraqi troops were found setting up bunkers and digging canals in 'Eyn-e Khowsh (at 428-763).

3—At 17:00 hours (13:30 GMT) on Sept. 23, Iraqi troops landed six ammunition crates in an observation post in Sumar, western fronts, (at 561-497).

4—At 17:10 hours (13:40 GMT) on Sept. 23, engineering equipment needed for setting up bunkers was unloaded from a truck in Sumar (at 51-55).

5—At 17:10 (13:40 GMT) on Sept. 23, four or five Iraqi soldiers were found building bunkers and digging canals in Sumar (at 572-451, 574-457).

6—A brigade of Iraqi soldiers, mostly speaking in Persian and Kurdish, was deployed in Naft-e Shah, western fronts.

7—On Sept. 23, Iraqi troops set up 20 individual and group bunkers in Panjwin, northwestern fronts (at 895-403).

8—On Sept. 23, enemy set up six new bunkers in Baneh, northwestern fronts (at 685-745).

9—Enemy set up two new bunkers at Garmab region (at 60-78).

10—On Sept. 23, enemy built several new group bunkers at Garm Ab region (at 591-774, 610-767).

11—At 17:00 hours (13:30 GMT) on Sept. 25, enemy set up an observation post in 'Eyn-e Khowsh, northwestern fronts (at 369-845).

12—At 08:40 and again at 10:30 hours (05;10 and 07:00 GMT) on Sept. 25, an Iraqi truck landed troops in Nahr 'Anbar (at 285-954).

13—At 09:00 hours (05:30 GMT) on Sept. 25, 10 Iraqi troops were seen digging canals in Piranshahr, northwestern fronts (at 034-513).

14—At 08:00 and 11:00 hours (04:30 and 07:30 GMT) on sept. 25, enemy tried to build a bridge in Marivan, northwestern fronts (at 011-549).

15—At 18:00 hours (14:30 GMT) on Sept. 25, enemy set up four observation posts and a group bunker in Mehran, western fronts (at 930-698).

16—On Sept. 26, four Iraqi trucks were seen landing engineering equipment used in setting up bunkers in Piranshahr, northwestern fronts (at 03-54).

17—At 13:00 hours (09:30 GMT) on Sept. 26, enemy set up several new bunkers in Sumar, western fronts (at 52-54).

18—At 13:20 hours (09:50 GMT) on Sept. 26, enemy landed engineering equipment used in setting up bunkers in Sumar (at 51-56).

19—At 10:25 hours (06:55 GMT) on Sept. 26, 70 Iraqi soldiers were observed setting up bunkers and digging canals in Piranshahr (at 022-546).

20—On Sept. 26, Iraqi troops landed engineering equipment used in setting up bunkers in Marivan (at 989-521, 009-532) and built bunkers on Sept. 27.

21—At 12:30 hours (09:00 GMT) on Sept. 26, an Iraqi truck landed eight fully-equipped soldiers in Sumar (at 51-56).

22—At 19:10 hours (15:40 GMT) on Sept. 26, an Iraqi warplane was seen flying at a high altitude from the south to the north (from Garmak to east of Baneh).

23—At 09:10 hours (05:40 GMT) on Sept. 26, two Iraqi soldiers were observed constructing new bunkers in Piranshahr (at 038-568).

24—At 09:25 (05:55 GMT) on Sept. 26, a group of 200 Iraqi soldiers were seen carrying engineering equipment in Piranshahr (from 028-546 to 032-543).

25—On Sept. 27, eight new bunkers were set up in Garm Ab region (at 598-764).

26—On Sept. 27, enemy increased its logistical activities and new enemy group bunkers were spotted in Garm Ab region (at 659-729, 613-782 626-767).

27—On Sept. 27, enemy captured an Iranian NCO and 12 soldiers in Deh Laran, western fronts (at 21-04).

28—At 09:15 hours (05:45 GMT) on Sept. 27, an Iraqi bulldozer was seen setting up embankment in Piranshahr (at 03-61).

29—On Sept. 27, enemy set up three new emplacements in Garm Ab region (at 534-800, 5400-7140, 536-798).

30—On Sept. 27, Iraqi troops set up a new artillery emplacement in Sumar (at 576-456).

31—At 08:40 hours (05:10 GMT) on Sept. 27, Iraqi troops erected six new observation posts in Sumar (at 51-55, 51-56).

32—On Sept. 27, enemy set up embankments and observation posts in Mehran (at 093-698).

33—On Sept. 27, enemy built a new base in Marivan (at 987-528).

34—On Sept. 27, enemy troops were seen busy setting up bunkers at Bandar-e Pirali District in Sumar (at 49-58).

35—From 05:00 to 08:00 hours (01:30-05:30 GMT) on Sept. 28, an Iraqi leader was observed setting up embankment in Piranshahr (at 036-563).

36—At 15:30 hours (12:00 GMT) on Sept. 28, four Iraqi trucks were seen landing troops and winter equipment.

37—On Sept. 28, Iraqi troops built three new bunkers and manned other bunkers in Baneh (at 80-62, 805-662).

38—At 11:00 (07:30 GMT), Sept. 23, a group of 150 Iraqi soldiers began to advance towards Iranian combatants in Dizaj (at 88-99).

39—On Sept. 23, Iraqi soldiers set up 20 individual and group bunkers around Panjwin, northwestern fronts (at 859-430).

40—On Sept. 23, enemy built six anti-aircraft emplacements in Garm Ab region (at 685-745).

41—On Sept. 23, enemy set up a few new bunkers in Garm Ab region (at 591-774).

42—On Sept. 23, enemy set up two new emplacements (at 610-767).

43—at 17:30 on Sept. 23, Iraqi forces set up two tank emplacements in Khosrowabad, southern fronts (at 525-305, 513-311).

44—At 06:30 hours (03:00 GMT) on Sept. 23, two Iraqi frogmen advanced towards Iranian positions in Khosrowabad region (at 53-22, 534-250) but later were forced to flee when facing Muslim combatants.

45—On Sept. 24, four Iraqi trucks were seen landing troops in Tanur region (at 929-627).

46—On Sept. 24, four Iraqi dump trucks and a grader were observed building roads in Panjwin (at 895-458).

47—On Sept. 24, a group of 20 Iraqi soldiers were seen fortifying their positions in Baneh (at 771-603).

48—On Sept. 24, Iraqi troops carried out reinforcement activities in Marivan (at 944-509, 940-512).

49—On Sept. 24, six Iraqi soldiers were observed crossing the ceasefire line and advancing towards an abandoned bunker in Piranshahr (at 4500-5570).

50—On Sept. 24, 10 Iraqi dump trucks and two loaders carried out engineering operations including road building in Chazabeh, southern fronts (at 69-29).

51—At 20:00 hours (16:30 GMT) on Sept. 24, an enemy trailer truck was deployed around Sumar (at 51-56).

52—From 07:45 to 09:14 hours (04:15-05:44 GMT) on Sept. 24, enemy set up bunkers around Kharratha (at 526-015, 522-027).

53—On Sept. 24, an Iraqi position was manned by 20 soldiers in Baneh (at 771-603).

54—At 12:30 hours (09:00 GMT), 14 Iraqi trucks landed troops in Tanur region on the axis of Qal'eh-ye Cham (at 939-627).

55—At 15:00 hours on Sept. 24, seven Iraqi soldiers were observed fixing posts for barbed-wire fences in Mehran (at 093-698).

56—At 10:10 and 17:10 hours (06:40 and 13:40 GMT) on Sept. 24, enemy set up a group bunker around Sumar (at 572-450 and 574-475).

57—At 07:30 hours (04:00 GMT) on Sept 24, enemy set up three new bunkers in Khosrowabad (at 502-332, 490-329).

58—At 08:30 hours (05:00 GMT) on Sept 24, enemy built two forts, an observation post and one 106 mm gun emplacement in Khosrowabad (at 493-390).

59—At 17:40 hours (14:10 GMT), enemy began to set up three T-shaped tank emplacements in Khosrowabad (at 53-26, 53-28).

60—On Sept. 24, Iraqi forces planted anti-tank and anti-personnel mines in Sumar (at 52-54).

61—At 08:40 hours (05:10 GMT) on Sept. 25, enemy troops fired mortar shells from behind "Bazmargsir" [placename as received] heights in Iraqi territory (at 023-510).

62—On Sept. 25, Iraqi forces continued their engineering operations including road building in Boloft and Dopazah [placenames are received] regions.

63—On Sept. 25, Iraqi forces were stationed in new positions (at 673-671).

64—On Sept. 25, Two Iraqi dump trucks and a grader carried out engineering operations in Marivan (at 938-424).

65—At 15:40 hours (12:10 GMT) on Sept. 25, eight Iraqi soldiers were spotted setting up bunkers at Tappeh Sorkhi [placename as received] Heights around Piranshahr (at 03-54).

66—At 15:10 hours (11:40 GMT) on Sept. 25, a group of 200 Iraqi soldiers were seen setting ablaze bushes at Tappeh Sorkhi towards Bazmargsir Heights in Piranshahr region (at 01:51).

67—At 14:00 hours (10:30 GMT) on Sept. 25, enemy deployed a tank in Sumar (at 501-610).

68—At 15:00 hours (11:30 GMT) on Sept. 25, Iraqi troops constructed five new bunkers in Helaleh, western fronts (at 86-31).

69—At 20:00 on Sept. 28, three Iraqi patrolmen attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in Sumar (at 508-612) were driven back.

70—At 19:30 hours (16:00 GMT), on Sept. 28, an Iraqi truck was seen landing ammunition in Mehran (at 071-677).

71—At 08:40 hours (05:10 GMT) on Sept. 28, three Iraqi soldiers were seen setting up observation posts in Mehran (at 092-698).

72—On Sept. 28, enemy set up an observation post in Salehabad, southern fronts, (at 034-882).

73—At 18:00 hours (14:30 GMT) on Sept. 28, eight Iraqi vehicles were seen towing an anti-aircraft gun from Kukhdan [placename as received] region (at 96-53) towards Shiller, overlooking Marivan in the northwestern fronts.

74—At 13:30 ours (10:00 GMT) on Sept. 28, Iraqi troops fired shots at Iranian positions from behind "Adab" [placename as received] Canal in Shalamcheh region (at 1330-8270).

75—On Sept. 28, enemy set up embankment and repaired its damaged bunkers in Nim-Istgah-e Nur [placename as received] (at 1700-8385) behind Adab Canal.

76—At 15:40 hours (12:10 GMT) on Sept. 28, Iraqi forces began to chant anti-Iranian slogans by loudspeakers at Bandar-e Pirali District in Sumar (at 574-455).

77—At 17:30 hours (14:00 GMT) on Sept. 29, enemy loaders landed ammunition in Mehran (071-677).

78—On Sept. 29, enemy troops set up embankment and built roads in Mehran (at 93-697).

79—On Sept. 29, enemy troops were stationed in new positions in Garm Ab (at 602-767).

80—On Sept. 29, six enemy trucks were spotted in Baneh (at 680-674).

81—At 08:00 hours (04:30 GMT) on Sept. 29, sound of six rounds of mortar shells was heard at Height 402, Sumar, (at 50-50).

82—At 09:40 hours (06:10 GMT) on Sept 29, an Iraqi truck landed 15 soldiers in Sumar (at 51-55).

83—On Sept. 30, enemy mounted at 14.5 mm four-barrel anti-aircraft gun in Panjwin (at 84-53).

'Secret' Talks With U.S. on Hostages Noted

LD0710185888 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 1530 GMT 6 Oct 88

[Text] Secret talks between representatives of the Islamic Republic and the U.S. authorities continue to be discussed by the world's news circles. The sudden freeing of the American hostage gives credence to the possibility that such talks have taken place.

In this context, news agencies have again referred to the letter from Prime Minister Musavi to the regime's president in which it is said that Tehran and Washington have been in touch through five different channels.

The U.S. Government authorities have not denied that there have been indirect talks with the leaders of the Islamic Republic; they have said that they have contacts with the Khomeyni regime through third countries, including West Germany and Switzerland.

Meanwhile, the White House spokesperson has said that if the Islamic Republic wants to have better relations with the United States, it can take steps in that direction through its efforts to achieve progress in the peace talks with Iraq and also by freeing nine other American hostages.

Futhermore, political circles opposed to the Islamic Republic, including [former president] Bani-Sadr have revealed that (Richard Larris), a former official of the CIA has talked with a representative of Hashemi-Rafsanjani on behalf of George Bush.

Pakistan

Minister Threatens To Ban Groups To End Violence

BK0910023888 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] The federal minister for information and broadcasting, Mr Elahi Bux Sumoro, has said that the government is taking steps to end the politics of violence. He was talking to newsmen at Sukkur Airport before leaving for Karachi yesterday. The federal minister said the president has already issued an ordinance under which any regional or communal group [preceding word in English] could be banned through reference to the Supreme Court. The government, however, needs solid evidence in this connection against any such organization.

Curfew Relaxed in Karachi, Hyderabad Areas 8 Oct

BK0810024488 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Curfew has been relaxed in all the curfew-bound areas of Karachi Districts East, Central, and West for 4 hours from 0600 [0100 GMT] this morning. Curfew will again be relaxed in these areas from 1500 to 1700 this afternoon.

In Hyderabad, curfew is being relaxed from 0800 to 1000 in the morning and from 1500 to 1600 in the afternoon. It is reported that the situation in Hyderabad and Kotri is under control.

High-Level Meeting Reviews Sind Situation

BK0810153288 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] A high-level meeting presided over by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan in Islamabad today reviewed the law and order situation, particularly in Sind. Special proposals were made at the meeting to maintain law and order during the coming general elections. The role of various groups and the present Sind situation were also reviewed. It was decided to strengthen the security steps so that the administration in Sind can take positive measures as suggested in the meeting. Steps will also be taken to check the recurrence of recent tragic incidents. More stern action will be taken against those fanning such incidents.

The meeting was attended by Federal Ministers Nasim Ahmad Ahir, Mahmud A. Haroon, Mir Hazar Khan Bijrani; Acting Sind Chief Minister Akhtar Ali G. Kazi; and others, including the corps commander.

Assembly Elections Scheduled for 16, 19 Nov

BK0810153088 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] The schedule for elections has been announced. Nomination papers for the National Assembly seats can be filed up to 15 October and for the provincial assemblies up to 18 October. Chief Election Commissioner

Justice S.A. Nusrat, announcing the election schedule over radio and television a short while ago, said that the scrutiny of nomination papers for the National Assembly seats will take place on 16 and 17 October. The last date for the withdrawal of nominations and for filing appeals against the acceptance and rejection of the nomination papers will be 18 October. The appeals will be disposed of by 20 October. The revised list of candidates for the National Assembly will be published on 22 October and the polling will take place on 16 November.

Regarding provincial assemblies, the scrutiny of nomination papers will take place on 19 and 20 October, while the last date for the withdrawal of papers will be 20 October. Appeals against the acceptance and rejection of nomination papers can be filed up to 22 October and they will be disposed of by 25 October. The revised list of candidates for the provincial assemblies will be published on 27 October and the polling will take place on 19 November.

The chief election commissioner reiterated the commission's determination to play its fullest role in the discharge of its constitutional and national responsibilities with regard to the conduct of elections in a free, fair, and impartial manner. He said these things constitute a first step toward the establishment of democratic institutions and a representative government and for the constitutional transfer of power. The chief election commissioner recalled the government's decision, which has been announced earlier, that for the first time the elections will be held under the supervision of the judiciary in the country. The government has also passed new election laws to check irregularities and any kind of interference in the elections. The commission now enjoys special powers to cancel and order repolling in any constituency after a summary hearing in connection with any violation of the Representation of the People's Act and the election rules. The new laws will discourage political confrontations.

Justice S.A. Nusrat said the Election Commission has also been empowered to summarily dismiss any government official for blocking the election process, interfering in the polling, pressuring polling personnel, or influencing the election results in any way. The officers and members of staff of the law enforcement agencies will also not be exempted from this. He said the rigging or use of illegal means in the elections will be tantamount to an infringement of the people's rights, which is the worst national crime. He expressed hope that the people will cooperate with the Election Commission in foiling the attempts of elements who will try to enter the legislature through illegal means. He expressed confidence that the people will remain fully vigilant and will cooperate with the Election Commission in safeguarding the sanctity of voting and in identifying those indulging in irregularities.

Delhi Reports Split in National People's Party

BK0910145388 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] In Pakistan, the 2-year-old National People's Party [NPP] of Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi has split into two factions over its decision to form an electoral alliance with the ruling Muslim League. One of the NPP leaders of Punjab, Mr Ghulam Mustafa Khar, a martial law prisoner and a former Pakistan People's Party leader, has formed his own group.

Benazir Facing Problems With MRD Partners

BK1010041288 London BBC World Service in English 0015 GMT 10 Oct 88

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] The most prominent opposition leader in Pakistan, Benazir Bhutto, has been speaking about her plans for next month's elections. She told a news conference in Karachi that her party, the Pakistan People's Party or PPP, is unlikely to reach agreement with its smaller partners in the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy [MRD] on fielding joint candidates. But she said that whatever happens the PPF would seek to form a coalition government. George Arney sent this report from Islamabad:

[Begin recording] It was Benazir Bhutto's first press conference since giving birth to her son 2 and ½ weeks ago, and she was looking cheerful and healthy. But she is having grave problems trying to sort out the distribution of seats for the election. Hotels in Karachi are overflowing with people trying to secure the party ticket. Ms Benazir Bhutto said she stopped choosing after 18,000 applications had been received. Many of those who don't obtain the party's backing may apply for the Muslim League ticket. But the more serious danger is that the 6-year-old MRD may disintegrate. Although Benazir Bhutto said she was still hopeful that agreement could be reached on the allocation of seats, the smaller parties in the alliance want to contest too many constituencies. If the PPP agrees to their demands, Benazir said, it would be unable to put up a single candidate in Sind or the [North-West] Frontier Province. But she is clearly very keen to keep the MRD together and prevent her party from becoming isolated as it was in 1977. [end recording]

Spokesman Rejects Reports on Election Delay

BK1010160188 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] An official spokesman said in Islamabad today that there is no pressure to postpone elections, or any consideration of such a move. The spokesman was commenting on news reports alleging that certain special interest groups are pressuring the government to postpone elections. He voiced his regrets that certain circles are still trying to create doubts and suspicions over the election date.

The spokesman emphasized the categorical assurances made by the president himself on several occasions, saying that the elections will be held as scheduled on 16 November. The spokesman reminded that recently the Supreme Court also confirmed this date. After this how can anyone suggest the possibility of postponing elections? This is part of a campaign to misguide the people, to create doubts and suspicions in the people's minds, for which there is no justification. The spokesman expressed his hope that the people will not heed such rumors and will continue preparations for holding the elections as scheduled.

MRD Chief Calls For Boycott of Elections

BK1010170088 Hong Kong AFP in English 1612 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Islamabad, Oct 10 (AFP)—Veteran Pakistani politician and chief of the influential pro-Moscow Awami National Party (ANP) Abdul Wali Khan Monday called on the political parties to boycott the November polls.

Mr. Wali Khan, current chairman of the Movement for Restoration of Democracy (MRD) said in a written statement to MRD party heads, that Pakistan's internal and border situation was inconducive to an election campaign and reiterated the alliance's demand for the removal of "partisan care-taker governments."

"Free and fair elections will not be possible under the current caretaker governments" in the four provinces, he said.

The statement issued from the northwestern city of Peshawar said: "It is high time for the political parties to force the government to change the unacceptable status quo."

If the current situation did not permit the political parties to launch a campaign against the caretaker governments, then the leaders should not participate in the November 16 elections, he said.

His statement came at a time when differences in the MRD were becoming more pronounced over the allocation of seats among the alliance's components and its nucleus Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) headed by Benazir Bhutto. [passage omitted]

The postponement was first suggested by the pro-Zia parties now united under the Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA), citing recent flash floods in Pakistan's largest province, Punjab, which uprooted some three million people and rioting in southern Sind Province.

Ms. Bhutto told a news conference in Karachi on Sunday that those who were afraid of being accounted for by the people were trying to postpone elections. She said that her major opposition PPP might not support a delay. She said apprehension of "malpractice" in the elections by the caretaker governments was widespread, but "we as a national political party will face all difficulties with courage while participating in the elections."

Industry Minister To Resign, Join Junejo Faction

BK1010155988 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] In a surprise development, Pakistan's Industry Minister Chaudhary Shujat Hussain today announced that he will shortly resign from the Federal Cabinet and contest the November election. He will fight on the ticket of the Junejo faction of Muslim League.

Talking to newsmen in Lahore, Mr Hussain supported the opposition demand that all the ministers in the caretaker cabinet should resign before the forthcoming elections.

Sri Lanka

Premadasa To Seek Indian Troop Withdrawal

BK0910145088 Hong Kong AFP in English 1442 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Colombo, Oct 9 (AFP)—Sri Lanka Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa said Sunday that he would have Indian peace keeping troops withdrawn from Sri Lanka if he won presidential elections in December. "If by the time I am elected president the Indian forces have not left, I shall ensure that they are withdrawn," said Mr Premadasa, 64, the ruling United National Party (UNP) candidate at the December polls. "Everyone, every community and every shade of opinion in Sri Lanka is agreed in their opposition to the continued presence of Indian Peace Keeping Forces (IPKF) in our motherland," Mr Premadasa said.

He told a UNP convention here that the presence of some 49,000 Indian troops in the island's north and east was an issue on which "all are in agreement unreservedly and unconditionally." Indian troops were first deployed in the two regions following the signing of the July 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord which sought to end a bloody Tamil separatist campaign. Mr Premadasa, a known critic of the accord, said he hoped to replace it with a "friendship treaty having greater reciprocity."

"I had reservations on the accord not because I did not like the strengthening of friendship between Sri Lanka and India," he said. "The timing of the accord was inopportune in my view." He said the agreement was signed immediately after India violated Sri Lankan airspace to drop food for Tamil people in the island's Northern Province, where Sri Lankan forces were carrying out a military operation. "There is no sense in my becoming the president if I am to surrender the independence of my motherland or if I am to allow it to be divided into pieces," he said.

He added that he was opposed to uniting the Tamil-dominated Northern Province with the multi-ethnic eastern region in line with the peace deal. He said he would hold a referendum "as early as possible" for people in the east to decide if they want the merger to continue. President Junius Jayewardene has already merged the two regions and elections for a united Northeast Provincial Council are due in mid-November. Nominations for the Northeast Council close on Monday. The councils, which have greater autonomy than the existing urban councils, have been set up in seven of the island's nine provinces.

Northeast elections have been delayed due to continuing fighting between the Indian troops and the dominant Tamil separatist group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

Hopes To 'Replace' India Accord

BK1010054288 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] The prime minister of Sri Lanka, Mr Premadasa, who is the presidential candidate of the ruling United National Party, has said he hopes to replace the India-Sri Lanka agreement with a friendship treaty with India. Mr Premadasa was addressing his party's annual convention in Colombo today. He said a friendship treaty will lead to greater reciprocity between the two countries. The presidential elections in Sri Lanka are to be held in December.

Outlining the foreign policy to be followed by him if he is elected president, he said he will establish friendly relations with all countries who uphold the sovereignty of Sri Lanka.

Referring to the ethnic issue, the Sri Lankan prime minister said he is prepared to have talks with the people of the Northeastern Province on the basis of consensus, compromise, and consultations. He said there could be no compromise on the territorial integrity of Sri Lanka. Mr Premadasa said if he is elected in the December presidential poll, he would hold a referendum on the merger question of the Northern and Eastern Provinces at the earliest.

Jayewardene Gives UNP Leadership to Premadasa

BK0910151788 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1432 GMT 9 Oct 88

["OANA/pool" item]

[Excerpt] Colombo, October 9 (LANKAPUVATH)—Sri Lankan President J.R. Jayewardene today vested the leadership of the UNP with Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa, who is a true national leader, the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation said in its news bulletin this evening. The president said Prime Minister Premadasa will be the UNP candidate for the forthcoming presidential election. He added that Mr Premadasa is an able leader who can serve the people with dedication.

President Jayewardena was speaking at the convention of the United National Party at the Sugathadasa Stadium in Colombo this morning. He pointed out the country needs a leadership with ability, courage, correct policies and a love for its people. He added that Prime Minister Premadasa is a leader with such qualities. [passage omitted]

Forces on Alert To Counter Sinhala 'Militants'

BK0910030288 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] The Security Forces in Sri Lanka have been put on alert to meet the proposed civil disturbance campaign by militants opposed to the India-Sri Lankan agreement. In a statement in Colombo yesterday, the government said it has information that anti-democratic forces have plans to disrupt normal functioning of the government and public organizations. The statement came on the heels of a poster and leaflet campaign by the Patriotic People's Front, said to be the military wing of the militant Sinhalese Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna [People's Liberation Front]. The Front called for closure of all offices, public and private, and the suspension of all transport services tomorrow which is the last day for filing of nominations to the merged Northeast Provincal Council.

It may be recalled that the Sri Lankan Government has promulgated a number of regulations under emergency laws to maintain essential services.

LTTE Suspected in Sinhalese Massacre

BK1010090588 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] In Sri Lanka, at least 45 Sinhalese villagers were killed and several others seriously injured as suspected LTTE men attacked a village about 10 km south of the north Vavuniya town. Among those killed were 18 children, 14 men, and 13 women. Reports reaching Colombo said the militants attacked the village last night and shot and hacked the villagers at random.

Life was disrupted in large parts of southern Sri Lanka following a bundh [strike] call by the Sinhalese extremist group, Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna [JVP]. The Matara District was brought under a 24-hour curfew this morning. Reports of attack and exchange of fire between the JVP extremists and the police at two police stations in the district have come in.

In Sri Lanka, candidates belonging to the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front, EPRLF, were today declared elected unopposed to all the 19 seats from Jaffna District in the Northeastern Provincial Council. The district's returning officer announced in Jaffna that he received the nominations only from the EPRLF and

all of them have been found to be valid. He said since 22 nominations have been filed in all by the party, the election commissioner will soon inform the party secretary to decide which of the members should be declared elected.

[Delhi Domestic Service in English at 1530 GMT on 10 October 88 reports: "In an engagement with the peacekeeping force [PKF] near Omantai, north of Vavuniya, 12 militants were killed today. The exchange of fire took place when the PKF intercepted a vehicle carrying the militants. A large quantity of arms and ammunition, and currency were seized from them. Sources said it could be the same LTTE group which launched an attack on the Sinhalese villagers last night. In the south of the country, at least five JVP extremists were killed when they attacked two police stations in the curfew-bound Matara District."]

LTTE Denies Killing; Blames Rivals

BK1110053088 Hong Kong AFP in English 0528 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Colombo, Oct 11 (AFP)—Sri Lanka's most powerful Tamil guerrilla group Tuesday [11 October] denied it was involved in a massacre of 45 Sinhalese civilians and charged it was the work of Tamil groups backed by India. A Sri Lankan military official had said suspected fighters of the dominant Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) shot dead and hacked the victims, including 13 women and 19 children, in north central Ullukulama village Monday. "The aim of this malicious report is to discredit the (LTTE) organisation. The LTTE suspect it could be the dirty work of Tamil terrorist groups operating with the help of Indian Peace Keeping Forces," an LTTE statement said.

The massacre, the worst against Sinhalese in 18 months, coincided with the first anniversary of the Indian Army offensive against the Tiger guerrillas after they repudiated a July 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord. Several hours later Indian troops killed 12 LTTE activists in an ambush in neighbouring Omantai village, the Indian High Commission (embassy) here said. Unconfirmed reports said the LTTE men killed may have been involved in the village attack.

Another Tamil rebel group, the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) said they had information that the LTTE was directly responsible for the Ullukulama killings. "We came to know about their involvement through some LTTE sources and by intercepting their radio communications," EPRLF spokesman Varadharajah Perumal told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. He said the LTTE had never claimed responsibility for any attack and there was no other Tamil group opposed to the majority Sinhalese community. "The LTTE is trying to show the world that Tamil people are barbaric. The LTTE is a shame to Tamil people," he said.

The fresh violence also came on the closing day of nominations for autonomy elections in the island's troubled North and East in line with the peace pact. The EPRLF and two other groups, the Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front (ENDLF) and Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO) were declared uncontested winners in five out of eight districts, officials here said Tuesday. Elections commissioner Chandrananda de Silva said the polling in the remaining three districts of Ampara, Batticaloa and Trincomalee will be held on November 19.

The EPRLF, ENDLF and TELO formed an electoral pact last week and have won 36 seats in the 71-member Northeast Provincial Council without a contest, officials said. A TELO spokesman Tuesday said the TELO had decided to give its seats to the ENDLF. "Even if the two parties lose the other three districts, they still can form a government," an official said. Under the electoral pact, the EPRLF took Jaffna and Mannar Districts, while the ENDLF took Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu and Vavuniya Districts. [passage omitted]

LTTE Leader, 156 Detainees Released in Madras

BK0910125988 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] The LTTE leader, Mr Sadasivam Krishnakumar, alias Kittu, along with 156 LTTE volunteers, who were detained under the National Security Act last month, were released in Madras today. They have been flown to Jaffna and Trincomalee in batches. Mr Kittu had earlier threatened to go on fast unto death from tomorrow if the LTTE volunteers were not released. He had also expressed his desire to return to Sri Lanka.

Official sources pointed out facilities have been provided for Mr Kittu and other LTTE members to return to the Northeastern Province in Sri Lanka.

Delhi Reports Bomb Blast in Downtown Colombo

BK1111045588 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] There are reports of bomb blasts in a commercial area in the main street in Colombo and a bomb scare in the multistoried shopping-cum-residential complex in the capital. Details are awaited.